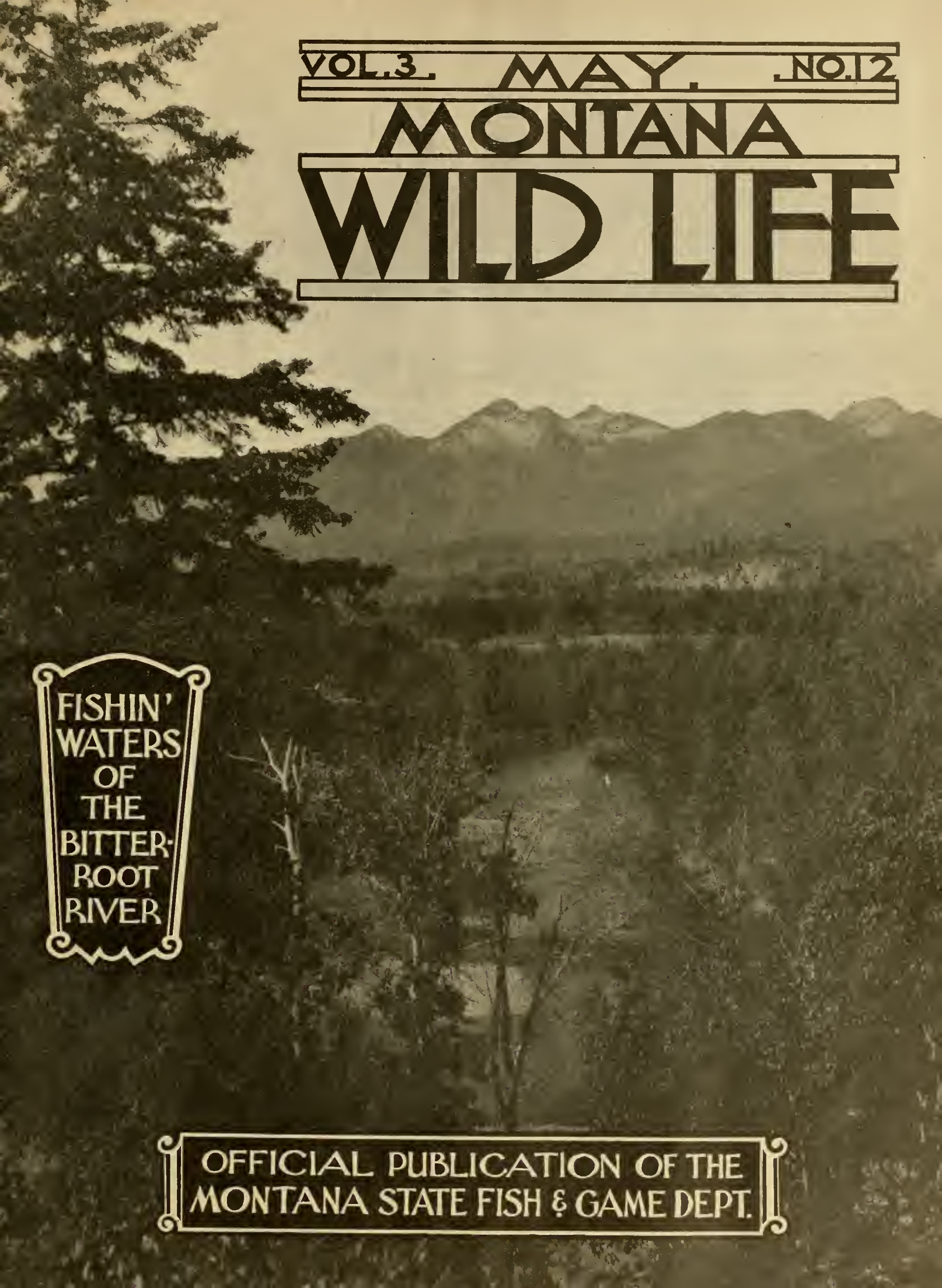
VOL. 3. MAY. NO. 12

MONTANA WILD LIFE



FISHIN' WATERS OF THE BITTER-ROOT RIVER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MONTANA STATE FISH & GAME DEPT.

The Exile's Answer

By Andy Schultz, formerly of Helena, now of Fort Worth, Texas as submitted in a letter to a Montana pal.

HOW do I like this country? Well I'd rather get by alright
If them damn Empire Builders, broadcastin' Monday nights
Weren't always remindin' of a better stamping ground
Raisin' that homesick feelin' for things that can't be found
Except in old Montana, where existin' ain't life's aim
And folks find time to live some, as well as play the game.

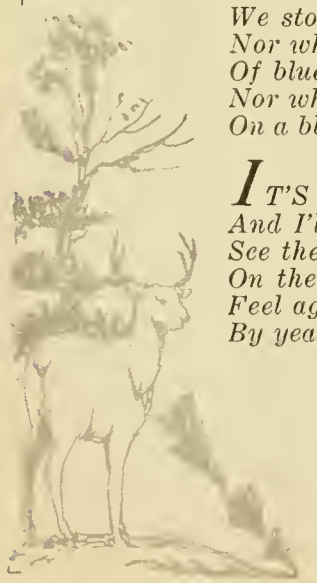
NOW work and me ain't strangers, but when I lived up there
I could earn my beans and bacon and still have time to spare.
So I found life worth the livin' and pleasures warn't unknown
Huntin' and fishin' and campin' with friends I'm proud to own.
Real square shootin' white men who were ready with a stake
To keep a pardner goin' if he had a rotten break.

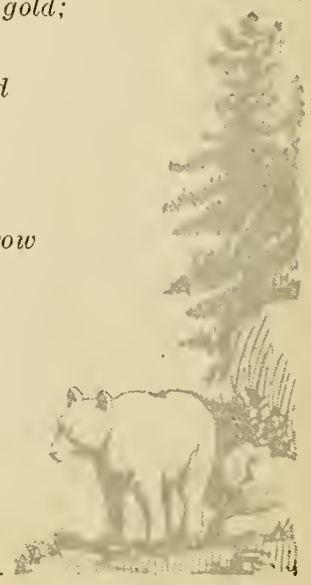
I AIN'T forgot the many times we've camped beside a stream,
Our bed-rolls spread on fir boughs in the camp fire's shiftin' gleam.
And wrapped up in our sougans our roof with stars ashine,
We listened to the night wind a-singing in the pine
Until sleep overtook us and then the first we knew
The sun was up a-dryin' our tarps all wet with dew.

I AIN'T forgot the breakfasts, nor the everchanging scene
As we dropped our flies on water crystal clear or bluish green.
Each riffle worth the whippin', each hole a promised fight
With a trout to make your blood race and haunt your dreams at night.
Such days seemed short, as slowly back to camp we made our way
Stoppin' to try just one more hole 'fore calling it a day.

I AIN'T forgot the mornin's when climbin' through the cold
We stopped to watch the sunrise paint the mountain tops with gold;
Nor when huntin' on the ridges, we started to the whir
Of blue grouse at our footsteps, seekin' cover in the fir.
Nor when creepin' through green timber we tried to draw a bead
On a blacktail buck a-leavin' the country at full speed.

IT'S hell to be an exile, but someday things'll change
And I'll hightail for Montana to ride the old home range.
See the mountains where in summer the plumes of beargrass grow
On the side hill, which in winter is drifted deep with snow.
Feel again the sort o' friendship that warms me all unspent
By years and miles between us and then I'll be content.





MONTANA WILD LIFE

The Official Publication of The State Fish and Game Commission

Vol. III HELENA, MONTANA, MAY, 1931 No. 12

Montana Opposes Duck Season Change

W. A. Brown

MONTANA'S State Fish and Game Commission has gone on record opposing action of the United States Secretary of Agriculture in setting the open season on ducks at noon October 1 and continuing until December 31. At the tenth annual meeting of the commission held at Helena April 23, Chairman Thomas N. Marlowe, who was elected chairman for the eleventh consecutive year, was instructed to lay the protest of the commission before federal authorities at Washington, D. C., and to present the facts to Montana congressional representatives.

Montana sportsmen, who are satisfied with the former opening date on the morning of September 16, declare that if the federal order prevails, the northern states will raise the ducks for bags of sportsmen of the south. Montana shooters complain that, under the federal ruling, the shooting of late September ducks will be lost at such favored spots as Red Rock lakes, Bowdoin and other lakes, the ducks reared in those areas having winged their way southward before the season opens. Duck food, planted throughout the state, will be of little avail under such rulings in retaining migratory water fowl, it is believed.

Members of the commission, appointed to protect the interests of sportsmen as well as wild life, declare that they were not consulted regarding the proposed change and that with vast changes in altitudes and geographical conditions in the state, the federal order is unfair.

The American Game Association takes the position that until present regulations are enforced properly, it is useless to expect maximum results from restrictions now placed upon legitimate shooting, and that the next important step is to quadruple the force of federal game protectors and get all states to do their full share toward enforcement to stop commercialized slaughter, illicit sale, night shooting, and other equally prenicious practices.

The tenth annual meeting was marked by the attendance of W. A. Brown, of Great Falls, appointed to membership on the commission by Governor Ericksou, suceeding Gilbert T. Boyd of Great Falls. Mr. Brown was officially welcomed. An expression of gratitude for the work of Mr. Boyd was also ordered.

Those present were: Thomas N. Marlowe, Chairman; E. A. Wilson, J. L. Kelly, W. K. Moore and W. A. Brown, commissioners; Secretary Robert H. Hill, Kenneth F. MacDonald, superintendent of Fisheries, and Floyd L. Smith, editor of MONTANA WILD LIFE.

Thomas N. Marlowe was elected Chairman of the Montana State Fish and Game Commission for the eleventh consecutive year.

At the last legislative assembly, the salary of the state game warden was increased to $3,600 per year, and the commission directed that the salary of Robert H. Hill, state game warden, be fixed at $3,600 per year, effective April 1, 1931.

Mr. Hill presented a letter from the City of Great Falls Park Commission, asking the Commission to establish a migratory bird refuge on the Missouri river, from the Rainbow dam to Park or First Island, a half mile south of the city limits of Great Falls. Commissioner Brown suggested that the description of this refuge should extend 100 yards from the bank of the river on each side, and that the length would be approximately eight miles along the river. Secretary Hill was ordered to advertise and hold the proper public hearing, and report to the Commission at the next meeting.

Mr. Marlowe advised that he had received a request from O. S. Warden, of Great Falls, on behalf of citizens of that city and Cascade county, requesting the establishment of an aquarium at the State Fish Hatchery at Great Falls for display and educational purposes, and on motion of Mr. Marlowe Superintendent MacDonald was authorized and instructed to procure the necessary plans for the construction of such aquariums as he thinks necessary, cost not to exceed $1500, and advertise for bids for their installation, subject to the right of the Commission to reject any and all bids.

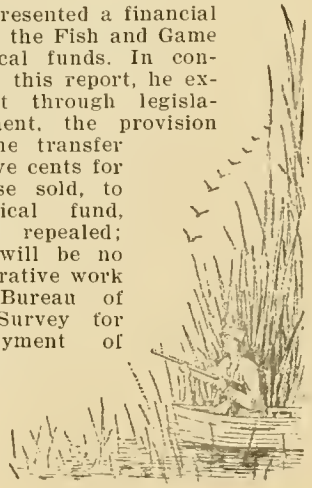
In connection with the Great Falls district, Mr. MacDonald advised that he had inspected sites for rearing ponds on the Dearborn, in accordance with the instructions of the Commission, and has found a suitable location on the Ole Bean property. Superintendent MacDonald was authorized and instructed, after having secured the necessary easement to this location, to proceed with the construction of these rearing ponds on the Dearborn river just as soon as possible.

Mr. Hill read a petition from citizens of Fairview, Richland county, Montana, asking the Commission to create an open season on deer in Richland county for 1931. This county is included on the list of closed counties in the statutes, and the Commission has no right to open it to deer hunting.

Mr. Hill read a letter from residents of Lolo Hot Springs, asking that there be no open season for elk in the upper Fish creek district during the 1931 hunting season. This district was declared open at the last legislative session and the matter was tabled.

Mr. Hill read a letter from the Dawson County Rod and Gun Club, requesting an open season in Dawson and Richland counties on buck deer, and on Chinese pheasants for limited periods in 1931. Mr. Marlowe explained that he had advised the club that the Commission has no authority to grant their request for an open season on deer. The request for an open season on Chinese pheasants was delayed until a future meeting, when such requests from clubs throughout the state will be considered.

The letter from the Dawson County Rod and Gun Club also requested duck food for Fox lake, recently completed bird refuge. Mr. Marlowe advised that the department still has a credit account for duck food with Terrell's Aquatic Farms, and Mr. Marlowe was asked to keep in mind the matter of purchasing duck food and if he finds that there is sufficient water this year in Fox lake, that he purchase food for this lake.



Mr. Hill presented a financial statement of the Fish and Game and Biological funds. In connection with this report, he explained that through legislative enactment, the provision requiring the transfer of twenty-five cents for every license sold, to the Biological fund, had been repealed; that there will be no more co-operative work with the Bureau of Biological Survey for the employment of predatory animal hunters; that all claims for this work

have been paid; and that the balance in the Biological fund is inactive. Mr. Hill advised that he had consulted the attorney-general's office relative to the disposition of the balance in this fund, and they had rendered an opinion to the effect that it would be legal and proper for the Fish and Game Commission to authorize the state treasurer to transfer this balance to the regular Fish and Game fund. Mr. Hill advised that the transfer of $7,500 to the Livestock department for predatory animal bounties is still legal and will be performed. Secretary Hill on behalf of the Fish and Game Commission, was instructed to authorize the state treasurer to transfer the balance in the Biological fund to the State Fish and Game fund.

Commissioner Wilson advised that and Forest and Parks Departments are now taking down fences on the northern elk herd range in Park county, and he was authorized to spend not more than $100 for the department's share in the work.

Mr. Hill read a letter from J. S. Gordon, at Troy, offering his land, on which there is a lake, for a bird refuge, on terms made by the Commission. No action was taken.

Mr. Hill read a letter from Ed Boyes, of the Libby Rod and Gun Club, wherein he explained that there have been so many orders by the Commission, affecting lakes and streams in Lincoln county, that the sportsmen are confused. Mr. Boyes requested that all previous orders of the Commission be rescinded affecting lakes and streams in Lincoln county, and that new orders be made. After discussion, the following order was made:

All previous orders of the Fish and Game Commission, pertaining to fishing in Lincoln county, are rescinded; and the request of the Libby Rod and Gun Club granted in full, with the exception of O'Brien creek and a portion of Bristow creek; the status of lakes and streams in Lincoln, county, Montana, to be as follows:

(1) All waters in Lincoln county not mentioned in this order shall be governed by the regular closed and open seasons, until further order of the Commission.

(2) The following streams shall be closed to fishing at all times until further order of the Commission: Miller creek, and its tributaries, from its source to the Fisher river; Flower creek, and its tributaries, from the Mountain States Power Company dam to its source; West Fisher creek and its tributaries, from the National Parks Highway to its source; East Fisher creek, and its tributaries, from its junction with Silver Butte Fisher to its source; and also Spread creek, Peat creek and Seventeen-Mile creek, located in the Yaak Basin.

(3) The closed season shall be suspended entirely on the Kootenai river, in Lincoln county, and on the following lakes: Loon, Leone, Horseshoe, Bootjack, LaVone, Crystal and Rainbow lakes, near Happy's Inn; Howard lake south of Libby, Montana; Bull, Savage, Schoolhouse and Milner lakes, near Troy, Montana; and Dickey lake, near Stryker, Montana.

(4) The Kootenai river and the following lakes shall be open to ice fishing: Loon, Leone, Horseshoe, Bootjack, LaVone, Crystal and Rainbow lakes, near Happy's Inn; Bull, Savage, Schoolhouse and Milner lakes, near Troy; Dickey lake, near Stryker; and Loon, Tetrault, Morand, O'Brien, Timber and Big Island lakes, located in northeastern Lincoln County.

(5) In addition to the regular closed season, Kilbrennan and Cowles lakes, near Troy, Montana, and Martin lake, near Fortine, Montana, shall be closed to fishing from September 1 to December 1, both dates inclusive, of each year.

(6) That Tetrault, Morand, O'Brien, Timber and Big Island lakes be closed to fishing during the months of June, July and August of each year, and open to fishing the remainder of the year, the regular closed season to be suspended.

Mr. Hill read a letter from J. C. Whitham, supervisor of the Beaverhead National Forest, Dillon, asking that a portion of Jerry creek, in Silver Bow county, be closed to fishing, inasmuch as the headwaters, because of beaver dams located there, are admirably adapted to the rearing of young fish. Difficulty has been experienced in protecting these fish for a sufficient length of time. Mr. Hill read a letter from Deputy Price, recommending such action, and action was approved. That portion of Jerry creek, in Silver Bow county, described as follows: Beginning at the Burnt dam in approximately un-surveyed Sec. 8, T. 1 N., R. 10 W., M.P.M., and extending through the Delano ranch to the headwaters of Jerry creek, was closed to all fishing until further order of the Commission.

Mr. Hill presented petitions from citizens of Fergus and Musselshell counties, asking that Willow creek, in these two counties, be closed to fishing for a few years, inasmuch as it has been almost entirely fished out, and the creek, rising in the Snowy mountains in Fergus county, and flowing easterly through Musselshell county, and all its tributaries, was closed to fishing until further order of the Commission. Mr. MacDonald was instructed to see that fish are planted in this stream for propagation.

Mr. Hill read a petition from citizens of Wibaux county, asking that Beaver creek in that county, be closed to fishing for several years, inasmuch as the stream is being consistently stocked and the young fish therein should be protected, and Beaver creek and all its tributaries, in Wibaux county, was closed to all fishing until further order of the Commission.

Mr. Hill read a letter from Charles M. Kinyon on behalf of the citizens of Chouteau county, asking that a portion of Shonkin creek in Chouteau county be closed to fishing to protect small fish. Deputy Roushar recommended that a portion of the stream be closed, as requested, and Shonkin creek, in Chouteau county, from the forks on the John Woodcock ranch to its source, and its tributaries, was closed until further order of the Commission.

Chairman Marlowe explained that the Commission last year had agreed to pay a portion of the salary of Frank Oktabec for a year in patrolling Nine Pipe Reservoir, and asked the Commission to make such an agreement this year with the Western Montana Sportsman's Association. The Commission voted to continue this patrol work for 1931, the Western Montana Sportsmen's Association to pay the patrolman $25 per month for the first four months, beginning January 1, 1931, and the Commission to pay the salary of the patrolman, $25 per month, for the last eight months of 1931.

Mr. Hill read a letter from George Milne of Millegan, who has a large reservoir, fed by springs, on his property, large enough to hold 100,000 fish. Mr. Milne offered to take care of any fish the Commission would plant in this reservoir, the Commission to furnish the food, the fish to be divided on the basis of 50-50 when grown. Mr. Brown suggested that the proposition be given considerable attention. Mr. Hill read a report from Deputy Roushar on the description of the reservoir, and Superintendent MacDonald, in company with Mr. Brown, was ordered to investigate and report at the next meeting.

The Badge of Honor

DURING the last few weeks since the Montana Sportsman's License went on sale to residents, the attractive windshield sticker, pictured above, has become a significant decoration for hundreds of cars owned by sportsmen who have acquired the $5 Sportsman's License approved by the last legislative assembly. The windshield sticker indicates that the owner of the car has purchased one of these documents of honor. It further indicates that he takes more than a "meat" interest in the conservation of fish and game in the state and that he is putting forth every effort to co-operate with the State Fish and Game Department. Montana is the first state in the Union to adopt this precedent.

Mr. Hill advised that W. M. Rush, who has been making a study of elk conditions in the state, was employed on a co-operative agreement by the Commission in co-operation with the Forest and National Parks Services, and the Biological Survey, for one year, expiring April 30, 1931. Mr. Rush has further studies to make under his present plans. Mr. Hill read a letter from Regional Forester Evan W. Kelley, asking whether the Commission desires to continue this co-operative work. Commissioner Moore described the important work which Mr. Rush is doing, and the Commission voted to continue the employment of Mr. Rush, in co-operative agreement.

Mr. Hill read a letter from Mr. Rush, stating that he had completed 1,000 feet of motion picture film, furnished by order of the Commission. The costs for developing this film are approximately $62.50. Mr. Hill was asked to write Mr. Rush temporarily to withhold this development work.

Mr. Hill read a letter from Blaz Lugar, Jr., of Monida, asking permission to cut and use the hay on land owned by the department at Red Rock lake, and offering to fence this land in exchange. It was thought advisable to retain this hay for nesting purposes and the request was denied.

A letter from the Secretary of the Great Falls Chamber of Commerce, R. C. Bricker, secretary, was read wherein it was suggested that the department allot all extra money received from Sportsman's Licenses sold in Cascade county, for developing hunting and fishing conditions in that county. The matter was referred to Mr. Brown for investigation, to be reported on at the next meeting.

Commissioners from the Southeastern Montana Sportsmen's Association invited the Commission to meet with them at Laurel on May 23, or on such date as would be convenient. The secretary was ordered to advise the Association that the Commission appreciates their invitation, and would enjoy such a meeting, but that it will be impossible to hold a meeting at that time. Mr. Moore will represent the Commission at the meeting.

A letter was read from the State Board of Examiners that on and after July 1, 1931, it is the intention of the Board of Examiners to charge rental to departments operating on special funds, for their office rooms, and that the rental of the Fish and Game Department office is $600 per year. The order was accepted for the time being, and the Commission requested more office room, inasmuch as the present office is inconveniently crowded.

The Whitefish Rod and Gun Club offered to assist the department in seining the undesirable fish now in Whitefish lake. This matter was referred to Mr. MacDonald, with request that he make an investigation and report at the next meeting.

Mr. MacDonald reported that the old hatchery site, at Libby, is no longer being used, and the permit from the Forest Service for the use of the old Libby hatchery site was cancelled.

Fish Wheel Test Made In Montana

MONTANA has at last attained the assurance of the United States reclamation service that it will install a test fish screen or wheel in an irrigation ditch in this state, in an effort to aid in solving the problem of the appalling loss of game fish in receding waters of irrigating ditches. With the approach of spring and the irrigating season, following an extremely dry winter, sportsmen are cheered by word received by T. N. Marlowe, chairman of the State Fish and Game Commission, from U. B. Gilroy. He writes as follows:

"Concerning the installation of a mechanical fish screen on one of the U. S. Reclamation Service projects in Montana, will say that we will make every effort to install one such screen to serve as a good example in your district.

"My observations made during my recent visit to Montana lead me to believe that the installation of this screen at the outlet of the lower lake on the Jocko development project will accomplish the most good.

"Commissioner Henry O'Malley is most anxious to do all he can to aid in your fish conservation program in Montana. I will confer with him in Washington within a few days, at which time we will examine our finances to determine just what we can do in this matter."

The Montana department has been experimenting for years in an effort to stop trout-traps automatically created by the opening of irrigating ditches leading from streams stocked with game fish.

Mr. Kelly reported that conditions at the State Game Farm are excellent and that 1,200 eggs are already under incubation.

In connection with the game farm, he advised that it is necessary that a water pump be installed so that, should the water be low, it can be pumped to all the pens. The estimated cost of an electric pump, he thought, would be about $435. Mr. Kelly was authorized to have this pump installed.

The Commission discussed the success of Mr. Hendricks, superintendent of the game farm, in raising and liberating birds, and Mr. Marlowe recalled to the Commission that a raise in salary had been promised Mr. Hendricks if he was successful the first year of operation. On motion of Mr. Wilson, effective June 1, 1931, the salary of Mr. Hendricks was raised from $150 to $200 per month.

Mr. Marlowe and Mr. Hill advised that they have had several requests from farmers who wish to secure Chinese pheasant eggs from the game farm, hatch them on their farms, and liberate them in their districts. Mr. Kelly explained that Mr. Hendricks does not believe this system to be a good one, inasmuch as many eggs are wasted, and it was ordered that, in the future, all requests for pheasant eggs by individuals be denied, unless the game farm has a surplus.

Clyde B. Terrell, of Terrell's Aquatic Farms at Oshkosh, Wis., asked permission to use reprints from an article in MONTANA WILD LIFE on duck food plantings in Montana, and it was granted.

Mr. Marlowe asked permission to execute a special-use permit for Nine Pipe Reservoir, which permit will come from the Secretary of Agriculture. The Reclamation Service has constructed and raised a dam at this reservoir, which will impound 7,000-acre feet of water, which will aid materially as a nesting place for migratory waterfowl in the state. Small-mouth bass have been planted in this reservoir. Chairman Marlowe was given authority to execute this license.

A petition was presented, addressed to the Western Montana Fish and Game Association, which was approved by them, from sportsmen of Milltown and vicinity, asking the Commission to create a bird preserve out of the waters formed by the dam belonging to the Montana Power Company, beginning at the dam and extending to the Milwaukee bridge above the dam, located near Milltown, Missoula County, Montana. Mr. Marlowe was instructed to hold a hearing relative to the creation of this preserve, and report his findings at the next meeting.

William Carpenter, president of the Butte Anglers' Club, requested that permission be allowed to plant muskelunge in Loon lake, near Swan lake. The lake is land-locked, there is no danger of the fish getting into other waters, and there are only a few fish in the lake at the present time. Mr. MacDonald suggested that this would be a good experiment, and the request was granted.

Mr. Marlowe explained that because of the shortage of water in the state, and particularly in western Montana, something ought to be done to fill up Brown's lake and Kleinschmidt lake, which have been heavily stocked with salmon and rainbow trout. Mr. Marlowe suggested that Deputy Morgan could do this work with little expense. In view of his explanation, Chairman Marlowe was authorized to act.

Mr. Marlowe asked what the wish of the Commission was with reference to again holding a State Predatory Bird and Animal Contest. This contest was not held in 1930, and it was ordered that this be revived, the rules and regulations to be made by the secretary of the Commission; and that $500 be appropriated for the payment of prizes. Mr. Hill was instructed to advise B. F. Gerry, secretary of the Montana Sportsmen's Association, of the continuance of this contest for 1931, so that he can interest sportsmen's clubs in the campaign.

Mr. Marlowe advised that the fence at Kicking Horse reservoir, which the department had purchased from the St. Ignatius Jesuits, needs repairing, in or

der to keep stock away from the nesting places, and he was authorized to have the fence repaired, at an expense not to exceed $150.

The Secretary of Agriculture has changed the dates for the Federal open season on migratory waterfowl, the open season to begin at noon, October 1, while the state law authorizes the opening of the season one hour before sunrise, September 16th. The Commission agreed that these conflicting dates will cause confusion for game wardens as well as hunters. It was also explained that due to the lateness of the open season under the federal regulations, there would not be much bird shooting in the higher altitudes in Montana, as the birds would have migrated south by October 1. On motion of Mr. Kelly, the chairman was directed to enter a protest against the shortening of the migratory waterfowl season in Montana, to the Secretary of Agriculture and the Montana congressmen, setting forth the reasons for objections.

Mr. Marlowe advised that he had word from Wallace, Idaho, sportsmen that they are pleased and in accord with the program and policies of the Montana Fish and Game Commission, and desirous of co-operating. They also requested several honorary game warden commissions for members of their club, but Mr. Hill explained that these commissions can be issued only to residents of Montana.

Mr. Marlowe reported that the contract with Paul J. Fair for motion picture work expires April 30, 1931, and that he has nine reels practically completed. Mr. Marlowe stated that he would like to have some more work done on them, and would like to have Mr. Fair get some additional scenes which he had been unable to secure this past year. It was decided that a reprint be made of every reel which Mr. Fair has taken.

Mr. Marlowe advised that he has had requests from sportsmen who have seen Mr. Fair's work that he be retained by the department to make additional reels. He was authorized to take up with Mr. Fair the proposition of his continuing his work, and report at the next meeting, or write his finding to the members of the Commission.

Mr. Marlowe read a letter, giving an outline of the towns in which Mr. Gerry has shown the reels taken by Mr. Fair.

Mr. Hill read a letter from the Hill County Rod and Gun Club, requesting the Commission to create a bird and fish refuge at Half Way Lake, in Hill county, and to construct rearing ponds on Beaver creek. Mr. MacDonald will make an investigation, and report to the Commission at his earliest convenience.

Mr. MacDonald stressed the importance of installing a few fish screens or wheels in some of the larger districts where there are large irrigation ditches, in Montana, where countless fish are being lost each year. He advised that he has secured quotations on different types of fish screens. The quotation on a 16-foot Oregon type of screen) approved by the Bureau of Fisheries representative) was $550. Mr. Marlowe advised that the Bureau of Fisheries is sending a man to install one of their screens in the Jocko river district, and that possibly a quotation for manufacturing these screens could be secured from the Bureau of Fisheries. Mr. MacDonald advised that he would make three, and possibly four, installations of fish screens in the state this year. The Bureau of Fisheries has offered to co-operate in installing a screen in the Valley Garden ditch on the Madison, near Ennis; they may also install a screen in the Sun river, and if not, he would like the state to install a screen there. He would like to install screens in the Cove ditch, near Billings, in the Yellowstone, and another in the Bitter Root district. Mr. Marlowe guaranteed that if the Doyle-type screen was used in the Bitter Root, it would not cost the Commission more than $150. The importance of installing some of these screens was stressed and it was suggested that sportsmen's clubs would co-operate.

Mr. MacDonald was authorized to secure a fish screen of the Oregon type to be installed in the Sun river, provided the United States Bureau of Fisheries does not intend installing a screen in this district; another in the Cove ditch, near Billings; one in the Madison, near Ennis, in co-operation with the Bureau of Fisheries; and one of the Doyle type to be installed in the Missoula district.

Mr. MacDonald advised that other important work which must be done soon is the building of several rearing ponds. He explained that some are needed in the Flathead, for which he has located sites, to be used in conjunction with the Missoula hatchery, which is a summer hatchery. Mr. Marlowe read a letter from the Western Montana Fish and Game Association, offering to assist financially in this work. Mr. MacDonald also explained that ponds should be built to be used in conjunction with the Anaconda and Big Timber hatcheries.

Mr. MacDonald was ordered to get estimates on the cost of constructing the rearing ponds in the Flathead, Anaconda and Big Timber districts, that he investigate securing easements for the suggested sites, and report at the next meeting.

Mr. MacDonald reported that water is low at the Lake Francis station.

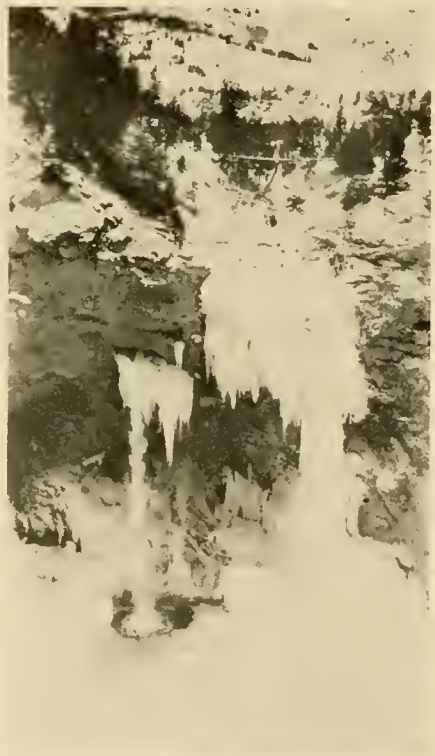
A discussion of the work done by the Educational Secretary followed, and the following order was made: The Educational Secretary is instructed to submit a monthly detailed report to the Commissioners and the secretary of this Commission, of his activities and itinerary for each past month, and a complete itinerary of the coming month.

Secretary Hill was also instructed to furnish to each commissioner a financial report for each month.

Mr. Smith reported on the number of subscriptions to MONTANA WILD LIFE. Plans for a subscription campaign were discussed, and the following order made: "The Editor of MONTANA WILD LIFE is instructed to write to the secretaries of rod and gun clubs throughout the state, asking them to nominate three or four dependable persons in their communities who will agree to take paid subscriptions, we to pay them twenty-five cents for each paid subscription which they take."

On motion of Mr. Moore the chairman was asked to write to G. T. Boyd at Great Falls, expressing gratitude and appreciation for his work as Fish and Game commissioner.

Natural Bridge



Boulder Bridge

THIS beautiful Montana winter scene was taken 25 miles south of Big Timber on the Boulder river. It shows the famed natural bridge in cold weather apparel. The Boulder is one of the best fishing streams of the state and during spring and early summer a large volume of water flows over the falls which are 110 feet. During the winter when the water is low, practically all the water flows through holes in the rock formation as indicated in the picture, hence the name "Natural Bridge." Only trout are caught above the falls as other fish are unable to negotiate the swift water. With one of the state's largest fish hatcheries located at Big Timber, supplying the entire tributary area, the Boulder is expected to retain its reputation as a trout stream. The picture is submitted by Will Churchill of Churchill & Amery, of Big Timber.

Waters of Montana Closed to Fishing

AYTIME means fishin' time and thousands of Montana anglers afflicted with the urge to cast a fly beneath bending willows, will have the opportunity May 21. For the benefit of disciples of Izaak Walton, the following list of closed waters of the state, brought up to date following action taken at the annual meeting of the Commission, April 23, has been prepared for MONTANA WILD LIFE. Better preserve the copy and tuck it away for future reference. Action has been taken subject to additional changes by the Commission and these may come at any future meeting. Changes will be announced in MONTANA WILD LIFE.

Anglers are required to purchase either the $5 Sportsman's License, which covers the entire field of hunting and fishing, or the $2 resident license which permits fishing and taking of game birds only. The $1 license for the big game hunter is provided with elk and deer tags and the return postal, in similar manner to that of The Sportsman's License. The purchaser must first be a holder of the $2 license before he can acquire the $1 big game license.

The following list of closed waters has been arranged by counties for the convenience of anglers:

Streams and Lakes Closed to Fishing During the Entire Year

Beaverhead—Stream leading from Decker Rearing Pond at Armstead to Horse Prairie creek; stream leading from Gordon Rearing Pond at Armstead to Beaverhead river; Big Hole and Red Rock rivers within 300 feet below the dam.

Big Horn—Dry Head creek and tributaries, closed until July 31, 1931; Soap creek and tributaries closed until May 21, 1932.

Carbon—Bluewater creek, tributary to Clarks Fork river, and all tributaries closed until regular open season in 1932.

Cascade—Hardy creek; drainage from Sheep Creek Rearing Ponds; Little Belt creek and tributaries; Giant Springs in Missouri river. That portion of Missouri river from west end of hatchery for a distance of 25 feet and into river, and in an easterly direction down the river 400 feet, to be marked with buoys.

Chouteau—All tributaries of the North Fork and South Fork of Highwood creek within the Jefferson forest. All the North Fork above Cow Gulch, and South Fork above Big Coulee; Eagle creek for 12 miles in Twps. 26 and 27 N., Range 15 E. Shonkin creek and its tributaries from forks on John Woodcock ranch to its source.

Custer—Waters of artificial lake at Miles City Pond Cultural Station.

Deer Lodge—Flint creek from its source to where it flows into Georgetown lake; Big Spring in Georgetown lake, closed area to be designated by piles or buoys, for distance of 200 feet north and south on shore line from pumping station and 300 feet from shore line out into the lake; that part of Stewart Mills creek beyond where the fence crosses it on Bowman's pasture.

Fergus—Headwaters of Olson creek; Willow creek and tributaries.

Flathead—Big Fork of the Flathead and Stillwater within 300 feet below the dam; Lake o' the Woods closed to Aug. 29, 1931; Big Fork river, closed from dam to lake.

Gallatin—Sour Dough creek from Story Crossing to Keggy Lane 1½ miles south; Watkins creek from where it flows into the Hebgen lake to its source; South Fork of the Madison from where it flows into Hebgen lake to the source and all its tributaries; Cougar creek from where it flows into Duck creek to its source; Duck creek from where it flows into Hebgen lake to the Yellowstone National Park line; Grayling creek from where it flows into Hebgen lake to where it enters the Yellowstone National Park; Tepee creek from where it enters the Yellowstone National Park to its source, and all its tributaries; Madison river from foot bridge that crosses the Madison to the Game Warden's cabin, to base of Hebgen Dam.

Granite—Flint creek from source to where it flows into Georgetown lake; Big Spring in Georgetown lake, closed area to be designated by piles or buoys for distance of 200 feet north and south on shore line from pumping station and 300 feet from shore line out into lake; Georgetown lake, for a distance of 300 feet on either side of mouth of Flint creek, and for a distance of 600 feet from shore; that part of Stewart Mills creek beyond where the fence crosses it on Bowman's Pasture; all of Spring creek.

Hill—All the tributaries of Beaver creek in Hill county; Little Box Elder creek.

Jefferson—Elkhorn creek in Twp. 5 and 6 N., R 3 W., closed until Oct. 16, 1933.

Judith Basin—Ackley lake closed until October 24, 1931.

Lake—Nine Pipe Reservoir closed to bass fishing; Kicking Horse Reservoir closed to all fishing.

Lewis and Clark—Streams and lakes closed for an indefinite period: 7-Mile creek from mouth of Skelley creek to its source, including all tributaries; Skelley creek and Greenhorn creek; Colorado, Sweeney, and Walker creeks and all tributaries; Canyon creek north of Wilburn and all its tributaries, including Virginia and Little Trout creeks; Little Prickly Pear and all its tributaries from Trauffer's bridge to its source, including the North Fork, South Fork, Lost Horse and Deadman creeks; Little Sheep creek, Marsh creek and Cottonwood; Big Blackfoot river from a point immediately below where Alice creek empties into it to its source, including all its tributaries; Alice creek and Hogum creek; Two Point lake; Twin Lakes and the streams connecting them; Krohn lake; Sheep creek, from source to mouth, closed until Sept. 10, 1932; Hope creek and Dog creek, from the forks of the two streams to their sources; that portion of Beaver creek, tributary to Sun river closed from Middle Fork of Beaver creek 1¼ miles above old White Mill site to mouth of creek.

Liberty—Great Northern Reservoir at Chester, until October 24, 1931; Half-Breed creek, rising in Liberty county and running in a northerly direction; Bear Gulch creek.

Lincoln—Miller creek and all its tributaries from source to Fisher river; Flower creek and all its tributaries from Mountain States Power Company dam to its source; Spread, Peat, and 17-Mile creeks, located in Yaak basin; West Fisher creek and tributaries from the National Parks Highway to its source and East Fisher creek and its tributaries from its junction with Silver Butte Fisher to its source.

Madison—Lower Madison within 300 feet below the dam; Meadow creek below point where electric transmission line of the Montana Power Company crosses said creek.

Meagher—Battle creek, tributary to 16-Mile creek; Newlan creek and all tributaries.

Mineral—Tributaries of the St. Regis river, with the exception of St. Joe creek, which is opened during the regular open season; with the exception of 12-Mile creek from mouth of said stream to where it empties into the St. Regis river to its source, which is open during the regular open season; and with the exception of Big creek from its mouth near Haugan to the Forks; Patty creek closed to fishing until further order of the commission.

Missoula—O'Brien creek and Blanchard creek; Rattlesnake creek, closed above the Franklin place; Clearwater lakes, to-wit: Inez, Alva, Salmon, Seeley, Placid, and Rainy—closed to fishing for bass until Nov. 1, 1931.

Musselshell—Willow creek and tributaries.

Phillips—Pea lake closed until Jan. 1, 1933.

Pondera—Waters in the ditch from Lake Francis to Conklin Gates.

Powell—Little Blackfoot from headwaters to confluence of Ontario creek; All tributaries of Little Blackfoot; Cottonwood creek near Ovando; Jones lake; Three-Mile creek in its entirety; McCabe creek, a tributary to Dick creek.

Ravalli—South Fork of West Fork of Bitter Root and tributaries, south of Alta; Three-Mile Creek and Eight-Mile creeks; all streams on Albert Wood Game Preserve near Victor Hughes creek and tributaries.

Sanders—All tributaries of Big Thompson river in Sanders county closed until further notice of the Commission; West Fork of Thompson river and tributaries; Clear creek, tributary to Prospect creek closed until May 2, 1933.

Sheridan—Park and Brush lakes, closed until October 24, 1931.

Silver Bow—That portion of Jerry creek beginning at the Burnt dam in approximately unsurveyed Section 8, Twp. 1 North, R. 10 West, M. P. M., and extending through the Delano ranch to the headwaters of Jerry creek.

Stillwater—Sioux Charley lake on the Stillwater, below the riffle above the head of the lake; Fishtail creek and all its tributaries, and Fiddler creek, including the North, South and Middle Forks thereof; Limestone creek and Trout creek, and all their tributaries.

Sweet Grass—Limestone creek and Trout creek, and all their tributaries; Lower Glass Lindsay lake, closed until October 24, 1931.

Teton—Stinson Slough, located one mile south of Choteau and the S. T. Slough, located five miles southeast of Choteau, until June 7, 1933; Black Leaf creek and tributaries in Teton county to be closed to fishing from the public road at Townsend lake west to foothills until further order of commission.

Wheatland—The tributaries of Big Elk creek; slough in which Loch Leven are being planted, from source in W. J. Tucker's place to junction with the Musselshell river; McVey creek closed from source to mouth.

Wibaux—Beaver creek and tributaries.

Yellowstone—Brook stream, in Pioneer Park at Billings, until open season in 1932.

Closed Season Has Been Suspended

Beaverhead—Upper and Lower Red Rock lakes and channel connecting them.

Big Horn—Little Big Horn river, from mouth to the Wyoming line. Big Horn river from mouth to the dam at St. Xavier.

Carbon—Clarks Fork river.

Fergus—Judith river, from mouth of Spring Creek to where river enters the Missouri.

Flathead—Flathead lake, with hook and line, with exception of 500 feet of the mouth of any of the streams that flow into the lake, upon which the closed season has not been suspended.

Glacier—Gold, Hedden, Crescent, Harry Coat, Bull Child, Dandy Jim, Browning, Mad Plume and Blackboy lakes.

Lake—Nine Pipe and Pablo Reservoirs; on all pot holes in Lake county.

Lewis and Clark—Gravelly Range lake and Hart lake.

Lincoln—Kootenai river, Bootjack, Horseshoe, Rainbow and Crystal lakes; Loon, Leone, LaVone near Happy's Inn; Howard lake south of Libby; Bull, Savage, Schoolhouse and Milner lakes near Troy; and Dickey lake near Stryker.

Madison—Madison river from the Red Bridge that crosses Madison river near Red Bluff, north to the Missouri river; and from Lower Dam south to the Hutchin's Bridge, except that portion of the Lower Madison lake west of a line which is designated by posts from Brannin's Cabin to the bluff on a line in a southerly direction to the east point.

Mineral—Clarks Fork river (or Missoula river) until further order of the commission.

Musselshell—Musselshell river within Musselshell county.

Park County—Dailey's lake.

Powell—Cottonwood creek which flows through the town of Deer Lodge.

Sanders—Clarks Fork river (or Missoula river) until further order of the commission.

He Would A-Fishin' Go

Closed Season Suspended In Rivers Running Through More Than One County

Milk river, Missouri river, Yellowstone river, Kootenai river.

Streams and Lakes On Which Additional Closed Season Has Been Added

Beaverhead—Beaverhead river, from Clark's Canyon bridge to north line of Ed Roe's ranch; Horse Prairie creek, from its mouth to Brown's ranch; and Blacktail creek, one mile each side of Rearing Pond; closed from Aug. 1 of each year to May 20 of the following year (inclusive), in addition to the regular closed season.

Flathead—Flathead river, between mouth of Stillwater river on north and mouth of Ashley creek on the south; closed from July 1 to Sept. 30 (inclusive), in addition to closed season.

Gallatin—Madison river closed to fishing at all points where it flows into the State of Montana before reaching Hebgen lake, closed period to begin October 1 and end November 30 of each year.

Lincoln—Kilbrennan and Cowles lakes near Troy, and Martin lake near Fortine, closed from Sept. 1 to December 1 of each year in addition to the regular closed season.

Madison—O'Dell creek and all its tributaries closed from October 1 to May 21 of each year.

Missoula—Harper's lake closed to fishing from July 1 of each year to the following closed season, until further order by the commission. Open from May 21 to June 30, both dates inclusive.

Streams and Lakes Open to Ice Fishing

Broadwater—Ice fishing for whitefish in Missouri river during regular open season.

Deer Lodge—Such portions of Georgetown lake as are not designated and posted as spawning waters, and all of Silver lake during the regular open season.

Flathead—Rogers lake open to ice fishing during regular open season. Samson, Skyles, Spencer, Beaver, Murray and Dollar lakes.

Glacier—Gold, Hedden, Crescent, Harry Coat, Bull Child, Dandy Jim, Browning, Mad Plume and Blackboy lakes.

Lake—Nine Pipe and Pablo Reservoirs throughout the year. All pot holes.

Lewis and Clark—Gravelly Range lake.

Lincoln—Kootenai river; Loon, Leone, Horseshoe, Bootjack, LaVone, Crystal, and Rainbow lakes near Happy's Inn; Bull, Savage, Schoolhouse and Milner lakes near Troy; and Dickey, Loon, Tetrault, Morand, O'Brien, Timber and Big Island lakes in northeast section of county.

Madison—Meadow lake, the open season to begin with the 15th day of December of any one year and close on the 14th day of January of the following year, except within 1,000 feet in all directions of the mouth of Meadow creek.

Mineral—Missoula river or Clarks Fork for whitefish during regular open season.

Park—Dailey's lake from Jan. 1 to March 14 of each year.

Powell—Mud lake, during open season; Brown's lake; Cooper's lake.

Sanders—Rainbow lake (known as Dog lake) from November 16 to March 14, both dates inclusive. Missoula river or Clarks Fork, for whitefish during regular open season.

Sweet Grass—Glass Lindsey lake from Jan. 1 to March 14 of each year.

Teton—Split Rock lake during the regular open season.

Streams and Lakes on Which Closed Season Has Been Changed

Deer Lodge—Georgetown lake closed season April 1 to June 30, inclusive.

Flathead—Samson, Skyles, Spencer, Beaver, Murray and Dollar lakes closed to fishing beginning the 1st day of July and ending the 30th day of Sep-

tember. Regular closed season suspended.

Gallatin—All of Townships 1 and 2 N., Ranges 3, 4 and 5 East; all of Townships 1 and 2 S., Ranges 3, 4 and 5 East. Closed season from October 1 to December 15, inclusive. Regular closed season suspended.

Granite—Georgetown lake, closed season April 1 to June 30, inclusive.

Lincoln—Tetrault, Morand, O'Brien, Timber and Big Island lakes closed to fishing during June, July and August of each year. Open to fishing remainder of year.

Mineral—Crystal lake, Hidden or Diamond lake, Clear lake, Rock lake, Huh lake, Square lake, Gold lake, Eagle lake, Cliff lake, and Hazel lake; closed season April 15 to June 30, both dates inclusive.

Powell—Brown's lake, closed season from July 7 to Sept. 14, inclusive. Regular closed season suspended.

Sanders—Rainbow lake (known as Dog lake) closed season is from July 6 to November 15, inclusive, of each year.

Sweet Grass—Rein lake open to fishing from May 1 to June 15 of each year, both dates inclusive, and closed from June 16 of that year until April 30 of the following year, both dates inclusive.

Streams and Lakes on Which Closed Season Has Been Extended

Beaverhead—Birch creek, above the Ranger Station, and Birch Creek lakes, closed season extended to July 10 of each year. Agnes lake closed until July 1 of each year in addition to regular closed season.

Deer Lodge—All lakes in Deer Lodge county except Georgetown, Silver and Echo lakes, from March 15 to July 1 of each year, and all streams running into the closed lakes.

Granite—All lakes in Granite county, with the exception of that portion of Georgetown lake lying within the county, Echo lake and Moose lake, closed from March 15 to July 1 of each year, and all streams running into these closed lakes.

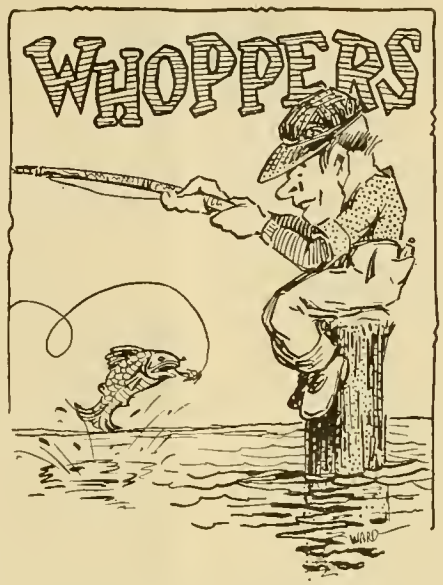
Jefferson—North and west ends of Delmo lake, designated by markers, from March 20 to August 1 of each year.

Lake—Jocko lakes from May 21 to June 21 of each year.

Missoula—Three Cottonwood lakes, from May 21 to July 5, inclusive of each year.

Pondera—That portion of Lake Francis extending 500 feet in either direction from canal and 500 feet out into lake closed until June 30, inclusive, of each year.

Powell—Gold Creek, Dolis, Trask, Dempsey, and Thornton lakes, from March 14 to July 1 of each year, and all streams running into lakes. Cooper lake, (outlet to) closed to June 30 of each year.



HOW DOES A SKUNK DO IT?

SCIENTISTS tell us that Montana skunks are nice, harmless little kitties that roam the woods. A lot of other fellows have divergent opinions. Here's a scientific explanation by Stanley C. Arthur, former director of the division of wild life, conservation department of Louisiana, followed by an excerpt from the writings of a French scientist, that's interesting and also aromatic:

"In ordinary times the skunk is cleanly and practically free from odor. A common folk tale is to the effect that the skunk distributes its odorous liquid by scattering it with the long hairs of its tail. This is not so. The liquid, which is not the animal's urine, is ejected in fine jets from two small tubes connected with the glands just described, the propulsion power being a powerful set of muscles surrounding the sacs. The secretion thus propelled by the muscular contraction can be sent a distance of 8 to 12 feet and is a clear, yellowish liquid having a most penetrating and nauseous smell, which has been known, under favoring conditions of wind to be detected at a distance of a mile from where it was emitted by the disturbed animal.

"The skunk was well known to our early French settlers of Louisiana, who gave it the distinctive name of Bete puante, or 'Stinking animal.' LePage du Pratz, French naturalist-historian, wrote of it:

> "'The "Bete Puante" is as small as an eight-months' cat. The male is a beautiful black and the female black and stripped with white. Its eyes are quick; its ears and paws like the mouse's. I believe they live on fruit and grain. It is well named puante, for it has a stinking odor that can be smelt 24 hours after it has passed a place. They walk slowly when they know they are followed, turn toward the hunter and expel a substance so offensive that neither man nor beast dare approach it. One day I killed one, my dog caught it, and on bringing it to me some of this fell on my hunting suit. I was obliged to go home immediately. Cleansed myself from head to foot and my clothes after having been scoured had to be exposed to the air for several days before this detestable odor disappeared. I had intended examining the animal closely, but this beginning caused me to decide that I did not care to make a further study of it.'"

DUCK ISN'T SUCCESSFUL "WET"

THOUGH presumably "wets," wild ducks should stick to water, believes Game Warden James Peck of Massachusetts. Autopsy performed on a wild duck which Peck found near Lunenberg, Mass., revealed the bird had died after drinking nearly a pint of liquor. The quacking toper's source of supply remained a mystery.

CAT'S YOWLING IS OPERA

NOW optimistic Kansans are proving there's good even in the wee-hour yowling of tom-cats. Nocturnal wailing has come to be music in the ears of many Kansas sportsmen and landowners. Instead of hurling boots at the cats, they are thanking kitty's operatic talents for helping them toss bullets at coyotes, destructive pests in that country. The westerners have found that when a cat is caged in a crate atop a pole in some lonely spot, its mournful song invariably attracts an audience of coyotes. In ambush, and armed with guns and spotlights, the sportsmen pick them off with ease.

MOVE TO WASHINGTON

IT appears that wild life, too, may soon be looking to Washington for its "national administration." With the Biological Survey and other federal departments dealing with the protection and restoration of game and other wild life already operating from the capital, the American Game Association, oldest national game protective association, has announced removal of its headquarters to the Investment Building, Washington. The association, since it was founded in 1911, has had offices in New York City.

LAWYER DEFENDS FISH

WHEN a black bass is taken from its home waters and escorted into another state, against the wishes of state laws and probably that of the fish as well, he now has a widely known lawyer to defend him and learn the whys and wherefores. Talbott Denmead, former Baltimore attorney, has been placed in charge of enforcing the recently amended federal black bass law, to regulate interstate transportation of this game fish, which is protected from market sale by all but 10 states. Not alone as hunter, angler and lawyer is Mr. Denmead said to be well qualified to understand the legal rights of fishes—he helped to write the law that he is to enforce.

Montana Fish and Game Commission

W. A. BROWN, Great Falls..*Commissioner*
JOS. L. KELLY, Anaconda....*Commissioner*
W. K. MOORE, Billings....*Commissioner*
E. A. WILSON, Livingston..*Commissioner*

THOMAS N. MARLOWE, Missoula, *Chairman*
ROBERT H. HILL, Helena, *State Fish and Game Warden, Secretary*

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TEN YEARS OF PROGRESS

WHEN members of Montana's State Fish and Game Commission gathered at Helena April 23, the meeting marked the tenth anniversary of the commission in its present form. Although Montana has had some sort of fish and game regulation, through various forms of management, since the days of territorial legislatures, the measure creating the commission of five with the state fish and game warden as secretary, was passed by the legislature of 1921.

In 1920, prior to the passage of the law, the commission was made up of J. L. Kelly of Anaconda, chairman; Major M. D. Baldwin, Thomas N. Marlowe of Missoula, with J. L. DeHart as secretary and game warden.

The commission this year welcomed the new member, W. A. Brown of Great Falls, who takes the place of Gilbert T. Boyd for the next four years.

The membership of the commission following passage of the law in 1921 marked election of Thomas N. Marlowe of Missoula as chairman. He has served efficiently during the 10 years. Associated with him 10 years ago were H. C. Crippen of Billings, E. A. Wilson of Livingston, J. L. Kelly of Anaconda, John Tressler of Malta, and C. A. Jakways, as secretary and game warden.

The commission now includes Chairman Marlowe, W. A. Brown, J. L. Kelly, E. A. Wilson, W. K. Moore, with Robert H. Hill as secretary and game warden.

During the formative years of a decade ago Montana had three fish hatcheries. The department now operates 14 hatcheries and five spawn-taking stations. It was agreed at that meeting 10 years ago to appoint eight deputy wardents in a state covering 146,000 square miles. The biological station work on Flathead lake was first discussed at that session as was the proposed pond cultural station at Fort Keogh, near Miles City. Both have since become realities as have hundreds of similar projects intended to maintain Montana's heritage of wild life.

Ten years of definite progress have passed. Money paid by sportsmen of Montana to make the department entirely self-supporting, has been invested in such manner that Montana has attained a position of enviable prominence in the nation among states which have been conscientiously striving to keep pace with inroads of civilization.

Game wardens are law enforcers—not law enactors. If some law meets with your disapproval, don't blame the warden.

GOVERNMENT PLANTS SMALL FRY

WHILE Montana's Fish and Game Department has for years realized the value of holding fingerlings in rearing ponds until they became of such size as to assure protection against their cannibalistic brothers, the problem confronting the commission has been that of financing the feeding of these fingerlings while reaching legal size. With each succeeding year, clubs of sportsmen of the state are co-operating with the department in the construction of rearing ponds. Yet word comes from the national capital at Washington, D. C., that more than 335,000,000 game trout fingerlings, or 30 to 50 railway carloads, will be distributed in streams and lakes by state and federal conservation officials after April 15. The statement is credited to Henry O'Malley, commissioner of the Commerce Department Bureau of Fisheries. These fish will not be of legal size for two years.

The article, published by the New York Herald-Tribune, follows:

"More than 335,000,000 game trout, comprising 30 to 50 railway carloads, will be distributed in streams and lakes throughout the country by federal and state conservation officials after April 15, according to Henry O'Malley, commissioner of the Commerce Department's Bureau of Fisheries. New York will lead the six ranking states in the distribution, followed in order by Maryland, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Connecticut.

"The trout, made up of rainbow, golden, black-spotted and Loch Leven species, will become of legal size in two years, Mr. O'Malley said. Those distributed two years ago have matured and are ready for the rod and fly. Approximately the same number was distributed in 1929 as this year.

"Of the varieties distributed by the Bureau of Fisheries, brook trout will be planted in the largest quantity, 16,899,000, followed by black-spotted, 16,457,000; Loch Leven, 15,975,000; rainbow, 12,904,000, and golden, 10,000. The last named is a California trout still in the experimental stage, it was pointed out, this being only the second time the bureau has undertaken to distribute this fish. It has not yet been determined whether this will be a successful game fish."

There should be a fortune for somebody in making rubber olives, pickles, and other things for delicatessens that sell nothing but gin.

LITTLE FISH SURVIVE OPERATION

MONTANA anglers, who are looking forward to the opening of the season May 21, are interested in the question: Do infantile fish, jerked above water for their first goggle-eyed view of the world from the end of an angler's line, die of the shock after being returned to the water?

This question, which has bothered fishermen ever since many states placed a size limit on game species, has been answered by 600 little fish at the Harietta Hatchery, Michigan. These piscatorial experimenters bit an assortment of hooks and artificial flies in the cause of science—and all but a small percentage of them were living to tell of "their operation" two months later.

All save two and a half per cent of the young fish caught with flies survived while a tenth of those caught with barbed hooks, the most difficult to remove, paid with their lives.

The fish division of the Michigan Conservation Department believes its investigations have proved that the percentage of young fish surviving an encounter with the hook justifies sportsmanly observance of the law. It has urged anglers to remove hooks carefully, wetting the hands before touching the fish.

IT AIN'T GONNA RAIN NO MORE, NO MORE

WHAT an English editor thinks of America's condition is certainly well put in "A Message to American Business Men" from Herbert N. Casson, editor of Efficiency Magazine, London. Read it—it will do you good.

"You are depressed. You think you are crippled. You are afraid of the future. You are full of fears.

"You have the gold of the world and half of the machinery and most of the automobiles and all the skyscrapers.

"You have the greatest home market in the world and the largest corporations that the world has ever seen.

"You are ruled by ideas and less by traditions than any other people in the world, you have usually done what you thought you could do.

"How can it be possible that a progressive nation of 120,000,000 people can be wrecked by the speculations of a little handful of fools in Wall Street?

"The prices that were forced too high had to come down. Today all the prices are too low.

"There is now a golden opportunity for every man who has eyes to see it.

"Dollars are now being sold for 30 cents. Practically every security in the United States is now being sold for less than its value.

"The way to create a fortune is to buy from pessimists. Pay your money and take the risks.

"Frick started his career by buying coke ovens in the slump of 1873. Carnegie made $300,000,000 by buying steel plants in slumps.

"Hundreds of fortunes have been made by buying from pessimists. Ye Gods! What a chance there is at this moment.

"In five years from now most American business men will belong to the 'I-Wish-I-Had Club.'

"Then it will be too late to buy a dollar for 30 cents. The opportunity will be gone.

"When a horse balks it is in the head, not in the legs. He moves only when he thinks he will."

The City of Happiness is in the State of Mind.

THOUSANDS OF QUAIL IMPORTED

BOB-WHITE quail have been imported from old Mexico during the last 15 years. Beginning with 1916 and up to 1930 the records of the U. S. Biological Survey show a total of more than 600,000 of these birds brought into the United States. During the last season there were no doubt another 100,000 brought in duty free under the new law—three-quarters of a million live birds for propagating purposes.

In 1916 the figure was but 8,000, then it jumped to 32,800 in 1917, then down to 5,200 in 1918 and 4,300 in 1919, but in 1920 it again jumped to 23,000 and ran above 22,000 every year since except in 1923, when only 9,000 came in. In recent years these importations have averaged from 85,000 to 90,000.

Beginning with 1924, the importations of Hungarian partridges ran from 3,000 up to 28,500 per year, with a total of over 71,000 during the period. It is estimated that upwards of 8,000 came in this winter.

More people enjoy baseball than football because they don't need a college education to get tickets.

EVIDENCE "COOKED UP"

"COOKED up" evidence which recently convicted a man in a Michigan court did not prove that justice was blind—or lacking of a sense of smell, according to the American Game Association. Conservation officers who visited the home of George Wilson, Carp Lake, Mich., were greeted by the aroma of roasting meat. In the oven they found a choice piece of venison, spiced, browned and tempting. Wilson drew a sentence of 90 days in jail on a charge of possessing venison out of season.

Where there's a will there's a way is today modified to read: "Where there's a will there's a way, if you don't have to walk to get there."

A PROGRAM OF DOG CONTROL

THE dog that is left to wander about the fields and woodlands is just as much of a menace during the nesting and breeding season of our game birds and animals as the feral house cat. No true sportsman ever permits his dog to run at large, because he realizes that much of his future supply of game depends upon the freedom with which our game creatures are permitted to nest and rear their young. In Pennsylvania, except during the regular training season for dogs, which is in effect between Aug. 20 and the end of February, dog owners are liable to a fine of $10 for each day dogs chase game, and $5 for each game bird or animal killed through such negligence. Owners who permit their dogs to run elk or deer are likely to be fined heavily, and at the same time the law provides that any dog caught in the act of pursuing either of these creatures for one-half mile or more may be killed regardless of whether it bears an identification collar and license or not. No notification of any sort must be given owners of dogs in such instances. But, the game commission appreciating the value that every hunter places upon his dog always gives warning to such owner with the hope that he will take immediate steps to remedy the situation. If he fails to do this, however, the dog is likely to be killed, and in addition the law provides for a double penalty. Owners of dogs who are caught chasing small game are always promptly warned. In the case of dogs chasing small game those killed unless the owner refuses to take action to prevent bearing the name and address of the owner may not be the creature chasing game. Dogs without collars may be killed at any time, however.

It's too long between bites; we must have more fish in proportion to the water.—Herbert Hoover.

HUNTERS BALK AT LUXURY SHOOTING

BIRDS of a feather won't all flock together in New Jersey, not if angry sportsmen on a rampage in that state succeed in ousting a bill which they claim would make publicly owned and stocked birds "go English"—and place the entire supply liable to dire consequences threatened in the old no-better-than-the-company-they-keep adage. The proposed law, according to New Jersey sportsmen, would introduce the English hunting system by giving licensed landowners sole title to the game on their property and the right to take and sell it at any time.

Organized sportsmen are showing, in circulars, tirades, and testimony before the assembly, that if there is a foreign import they dislike more expansively than "luxury" and "market" shooting they don't recall it at the moment.

But the sorest thumb which the bill appears to tackle is the alleged fact that it fails to remember that New Jersey land is already stocked with game produced by the state at the expense of the sportsmen. It would make this hard-earned public game a market commodity along with the rest—if there was any rest, the sportsmen claim.

It is another indication that in many sections hunters and fishermen are in the proverbial frying pan, with a lusty conflagration set off under them by the drought and game scarcity. And no matter which direction they jump to regain better hunting, they must leave "free hunting" farther behind.

As a practical antidote for "luxury" hunting North Carolina sportsmen recently squashed a similar "English" bill in favor of a plan to pay farmers who actually produce a game crop for hunting privileges. Several other states, including New Jersey, are asking for higher license fees to push the extension of state-owned wild life refuges surrounded by public shooting areas.

The voices of Youth at a camp fire add much to the Nocturne of Nature.

BADGERS BOTHER AIRPLANES

BADGERS, whose burrows menaced Uncle Sam's Pony Express in the early days of Montana, have bobbed up again as a danger to the latest in mail carriers—the airplane. Holes dug by these animals have presented a hazard to planes landing on the field at Wamsutter, Wyo. The badger is considered valuable as a fur-bearer and rodent-destroyer and will continue to receive encouragement—outside of landing fields.

The Hump Hitch

By Bill McLaughlin, (Bitter Root Bill), of Hamilton, Montana

W. B. McLaughlin
Bitter Root Bill

FITZGERALD and his string drifted into camp just in time to get in on the grub pile. It was nothing new for Fitz and we were not surprised to hear Bob Haines, who was running the outfit, blurt out, "Well, what was the trouble today?"

We all knew the answer. Same old story.

"Trouble! Hell, what's always the trouble, that ornery, hump-backed, black imitation of a horse, of course. By God, you just can't keep a pack on him. I snuck up on him twicet today to tighten up, and the wall-eyed devil just swelled up like a poisoned toad and humped himself all same camel. 'Course the damn pack had to turn in the worst place, just beyond that slide, where you couldn't even step sideways. I'd a notion to roll him into the drink."

"Well, why didn't you?" said Bob with a laugh.

"Oh, hell, I had a hunch that you couldn't break his fool neck and I'd have to go down and hoist him up."

Old Dan Folsom, the daddy of the bunch, growled, "Aw, quit your grouching. You make me tired. Because you can spread a pair of Alforgas on a gentle cayuse and maybe throw a squaw hitch, you call yourself a Packer." The tone as much as the words were expressive of the utmost contempt, and it was plain to be seen that no love was lost between the two.

Fitz was one of these lads that have no respect for age or experience and his offhand manner in disposing of Dan's opinions had got on the old man's nerves.

"Rave on, you old stiff," snorted Fitz. "I notice you picked the easy ones. I wish you had that bronco in your string—you'd think you had a camel, but then you never can tell. Maybe you know a 'hump hitch' that would fit a camel. You seem to know everything else, that is, to hear you say."

It bid fair to be a real sociable evening and the gang 'round the campfire, dog tired though we were, relaxed in joyful anticipation. Since leaving the trail a couple of days before, it sure had been tough going, what with down timber, bad fords and rolling a couple just to make it interesting. None of us were feeling any too peart, you understand, so a little diversion was real welcome.

We were heading right into the smoke from what we judged to be a real blaze over towards the middle fork of the Salmon, with supplies for the crews already in there, some place.

Dan's eyes snapped a little after the outbreak from Fitz. "Yes," he replied, "and if you 'Hill Billies' only knew it the 'Hump Hitch' was used on real camels and very likely right on this trail!"

"Aw, come off, Dan, you don't expect us to swallow that?"

"Swallow it or choke, 'tis all the same to me, it has been done, Bob; it sure has."

A raucous laugh from Fitz was the answer.

"Now look here," Dan went on, "if you farmers will keep your flytraps shut for a while I'll try and drive it into your thick heads that there is something you don't know all about—which no doubt will be a big surprise to some of you," glaring at Fitz.

"All right," said Bob, "we're all set. Let her buck."

With a preliminary puff or two at the old pipe, Dan began: "'Twas in '64 or '65, I forget which, anyway I was just a kid and had drifted into Walla Walla, which at that time was the supply point for the mining camps in these mountains. It was while I was there that this camel train blowed in. Where they came from, God only knows."

"Was the packers with the outfit Aa-rabs?" broke in Fitz. "Seems to me they always go together?"

"Mebbe so, mebbe so. The boss of the train might have been an Aa-rab and his first name was probably Ben Ali, but his last name happened to be Murphy, so you can draw your own conclusion. Well, anyway, business was brisk. The new camps at Last Chance and Alder Gulch were booming and freight was in demand, with the packers independent as hell. By the way, it was no trip for a tenderfoot, what with road agents, horse thieves and pesky Indians, so that Murphy had no trouble in talking the merchants into giving him a load—any port in a storm, you might say.

"Of course, the old mule packers made many an insulting remark and prophesied all kinds of bad luck as the caravan sped away on its first and only trip. Once was enough."

"That Gazabo Murphy must have been 'nuts'," Fitz remarked. "What the hell good would camels be in these hills? What kind of a trail would fit them big hoofs and Oh Lord, if you was to roll one, how would you up-end him? You'd have to pack a derrick along."

"Oh, I don't know," replied Dan, "camels has their good points, not like some that I know. They can pack an awful load and they can step over a four-foot log, and on top of that they can go seven days without water."

"Yeah," jeered Fitz, "so could Murphy, I'll bet ye, or any of you old geezers, provided you could get 'hootch.' I knew a Bill Campbell once who could go twicet that long; besides, what the hell kind of a desert was this in them days? Not like it is now, I guess, when you have to wade a creek every mile or so. Say," he continued, "I run across a trail over Lolo way which they told me General Howard built when he chased Chief Joseph and his Nez Perces. It was like a wagon road. I'll bet ye, if the truth was known, that Murphy and his Aa-rabs laid it out for the camels, that is, if there ever was such a damn train—sounds fishy to me. Another thing, what did the critters eat? Seems to me that the proper rations for camels was dates and palms, with an occasional feed of oasis; how about it?"

Well, sir, the bunch roared so that you could hear them over on the Selway, and Dan was purple with indignation.

"Why, you poor squawfish," he sputtered, "just because it seems so to you, it must be so, eh? If you'd just keep on seeming and not say anything, no one would know how ignorant you are. Just to put you on the right trail," said he, spitting contemptuously into the fire, "I'll have ye know that 'oasis' is some kind of religion and not anything to eat for man nor beast. Furthermore, ye'd ought to know, but of course ye don't, that camels are carniverous animals and live chiefly on 'no-see-em' gnats and mosquitoes with which their native desert is plentifully infested. Of course, up here in the timber they would reach up and grab off a nice juicy 'Lodge Pole Trout' once in a while, just for dessert, as ye might say—they wasn't protected in them days, anyway, so you see, they fed on the fly, which was another good point I forgot to mention. Now, I hope ye wont interrupt again with foolish questions.

"As I was saying, the train had pretty easy sledding so far. Let an Indian get one glimpse of the outfit and he vanished 'pronto'—oh, the camels were sure bad medicine for everything on four legs. I doubt but a grizzly would give them the right of way. Of course it was notural that every cayuse or mule that got a sight of the ungainly cattle took to the tall timber immediately, and many's the sincere and proficient cussing Murphy got from some wire-haired prospector who was set afoot or his trap scattered through the brush. It was this same tendency, to be sure, that eventually broke the camel's back, as it were; anyway it broke the owner's, which was just the same.

"Outside of these few minor affairs, as ye might call them, all went well and the caravan eventually reached the little settlement of Hell Gate on the Missoula river.

"Tom Borden had just opened a store or trading post at Hell Gate, and happened at this particular time to be celebrating his grand opening by sampling all the liquid goods he had in stock. He was nicely organized by the time the train drifted along in front of the store.

"Stepping outside, he met, head on, the lead or bell mare camel of the outfit. Was he startled? Well I guess yes! At first he thought he was seeing things and looked around for the pink elephants. Finally convcining himself that this was the real thing in camels, a bright idea shot through his drink-muddled brain.

"'Hold everything, boys!' he yelled, 'there'll be free drinks for everyone, including the camels.'

"Now, Tom was a Mason, and a good one, at least back East, and he remembered that somewhere in his traps there should be an old red fez. Dashing into the store he rummaged around until he found it. Taking position at the head of the parade, with the fez jauntily set in proper fashion, he strode proudly down the road until they reached the corral. It was a grand sight and I'll bet ye 'twas the first Shrine Patrol in the state of Montana, or in the Northwest, for that matter.

"The news of the approaching camel train had reached the camps and its arrival at Last Chance and Alder Gulch was eagerly grasped as a fine opportunity for everyone to quit work, and incidentally tank up, which was about the only way them days for any regular celebration. Most of the miners had a skinful, although the camels had to be satisfied with water.

"Well, after the circus was over, the outfit started on the back trail for Walla Walla, and outside of losing one of the camels nothing exciting happened until it reached the Bitter Root Mountains.

"The way they lost the camel was like this:

"Old Pierre LeBrun, a French half-breed, had been to Deer Lodge, trading, and as a natural consequence, the biggest part of his trade was 'rot gut' carried personally and internally.

"Lounging along on his cayuse, half asleep, with his rifle across the saddle, his startled gaze fell on some object just coming over a little raise in the trail not 20 feet in front of him. It was a head, all right, and looked to Pierre like the grandmother of all the moose; anyway he lost no time letting drive with the old musket. Of course he hit it; even an Indian couldn't miss at that distance, but the yell that followed made him feel that everything wasn't just as it should be.

"Over the hill came Murphy, cussing like a blue streak. 'What the blankety, blank, blank, do ye mean, shooting the camel? You old bunch of whiskers, I've a notion to perforate you!'

"Pierre was sobering up pretty fast. 'But, M'sieu,' cried he, 'it was but natural to suppose she was de moose, is it not—ze camel, she is not of this countree, maybe she is wort' de skin, eh?'

"Here's where Murphy showed he must have been part Aa-rab, anyway, for he set poor old Pierre afoot, taking his cayuse and even the old gun in part payment for his loss. It was a tough day for old man LeBrun.

"Bob," said Dan, "you remember the Fourth of July canyon up in the Coeur d'Alene—we were through there a year ago. Well, this is how it got its name.

"The camel train hit the trail at the head of the canyon on that very day, and at about the same time a string of 12 mules started from the lower end coming East. Jim Stevens owned the outfit.

"Jim had the reputation of being a careful and reliable packer, and he generally got a picked cargo. On this particular trip six of the mules were loaded with booze, two kegs to the mule. Believe me, many an anxious merchant, not to mention thirsty miners, were eagerly looking forward to its safe arrival in the Montana camps.

"It being the Fourth of July, Jim was figuring on going into camp a little early with the intention, no doubt, of celebrating a little, even if he had to broach the cargo; anyway he was feeling right peart.

"Along about noon he was riding ahead of the train, with an eye peeled for a good spot to turn out. Everything was calm and peaceful as he rode along roaring out 'Oh, Susanna' at the top of his voice, to the envy of his long-eared followers—just like that. In another minute hell had broke loose.

"Rounding a turn on the trail, his mule and the lead camel met face to face. There was something about that ugly phiz in front of him which didn't seem exactly cordial to the mule, if you know what I mean, and he reversed himself in less ground than he stood on. He wasn't long doing it, either. In fact it was so sudden that Jim found himself taking a header down the mountain before he could even stop singing. although, to be sure, 'Susanna' was split in two, Susie being disconnected from Anna by about 50 feet and a mouthful of gravel.

"Back down the trail went the mule, hitting the high spots, striking the rest of the string like a young cyclone—well, you don't have to argue very long with a mule to make him act ornery, so on general principles they concluded to make a regular fracas out of it. They proceeded to disintegrate, as ye might say, and see which could get rid of his pack the quickest. To be sure, some of them had no choice, being bowled off the trail by the wild runaway, rolling down the steep hillside to the everlasting ruination of the loads.

"It was a scene of wild confusion, toward which the innocent cause came sauntering peacefully, calmly chewing its cud, followed by Murphy and the rest of the train.

"'What the hell's going on here?' cried the astounded Murphy. 'Looks like someone is celebrating!'

"Jim and his partner were weeping bitter tears and cussing just as bitterly as keg after keg struck a rock and loosed the contents to irrigate the landscape. It was pitiful, all that good liquor going to waste. It was powerful stuff, too! Why, Jim said that in two hours' time some of the young firs on the slope grew up into yellow pine nearly big enough to saw. It may be so. I wouldn't put it past some of that stuff.

"It was some little time before Jim could recover sufficiently to make any what you might call adequate reply to Murphy, but when he did, oh boy, he sure burned up the brush. He was a past master in the use of language coined especially for mules. Even the camels, hard-boiled as they were, retreated several paces up the trail before he got through. At that, you couldn't blame him much; there was no worse crime them days than to waste good liquor.

"Hot and bitter recriminations continued for some time between the rival packers.

"'I've a notion to shoot every damn hump off their backs,' spluttered Jim. 'It's getting so a peaceful packer can't travel the hills any more without giving the trail to some damn traveling circus.'

"'Circus yourself,' sneered Murphy. 'You don't see my animals performing any, do you? Look at them! That's what I call a real pack train, not like them hell roaring jackasses of yours—for that matter, anyone who would run them is the biggest jackass in the bunch.'

"'My God,' moaned Jim, 'think of all that booze wasted. Many the honest miner will have to turn into a camel and go seven days without a drink—and my mules—why, for the next six months every dame one of them will be having nightmares, and the chances are that the next foals them mare mules has will be giraffes! Why don't you take your splay-hoofed monstrosities back to the desert where they belong?'

"While the argument was going on the camels were solemnly surveying the scene of disaster, littered with wreckage. To all appearances they were entirely unconcerned, but not so. On closer scrutiny you would observe a kind of satisfied look, or what you might call a Volstead expression, slyly creep over their ugly faces. It might have been because of the shattered kegs lying around, or the aroma which filled the air, I don't know.

"'Looks to me,' Murphy remarked, 'that ye'd be trying to salvage some of the liquor instead of raving around like you was sober.'

"Jim must have thought this a good idea, for the first thing you know all hands were busy with cups and baskets, and a fairly good supply was saved from partly shattered kegs. Of course while this was going on, it was being liberally sampled, and it wasn't very long before the whole party was hilarious. Everything was congenial and for the time troubles were forgotten in the general celebration of the grand and glorious Fourth, that is, among the human element of the party. The beasts of burden, as ye might call them, had drawn a Hindenburg line, hard and fast, the camels standing on their dignity, sleepily and contemptuously surveying their more agile competitors; while the mules, keeping a safe distance, had a wary eye open for any hostile move on the part of their unwelcome visitors.

"In due course, however, Jim's befuddled mind harked back to the original difficulty.

"'Look at here, Murphy, there's one thing that's a cinch. There's only room on this trail for one of us. You've been bragging about them camels of yours. I'll maybe admit that they pack a hefty load, but how about getting over the ground? I've got you there.'

"'The hell you have,' snorted Murphy. 'Why, them camels will cover more ground in a day than any mule that ever came out of Missouri.'

"'Talk's cheap,' Jim sneered. 'I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll run ye a race, my mules against your camels. The loser quits the trail and gets the hell out of here. That's giving you the best of it, cause a damn camel is an alien anyway and has no rights. You see that point of rocks down there, about a half mile, I guess, down to the point and back? Now, are ye game?'

"Yes, Murphy assured him, with many embellishments, he was game all right.

"They sure had the devil's own time lining up the two contestants. There was a very marked disinclination on the part of Jim's mule to enter into the spirit of the thing, let alone get near enough Murphy's camel to get an even break. It was only by blindfolding him and wedging him against a tree that anything like a fair start was had.

"'All set,' yelled Murphy.

"'Let her buck!' roared Jim.

"The handkerchief was snatched off the mule and two pairs of spurs dug in viciously and simultaneously.

"The camel let out a bawl like a steam caliope, and all that mule wanted to do was to get away from there. He did take time for one fleeting glance backward, and it seemed to him the camel was gaining. After that he just disappeared. As a mater of fact the rest of the outfit never saw either of them until they got back to Walla Walla.

"It was a good race. Jim says the mule won, and the way he started out, I believe it. Besides that, Murphy and his camels left the country. I think he must have got disgusted and turned them loose and they moseyed down towards Arizona, which has more congenial surroundings, as ye might say. Anyway, I've heard there was a wild bunch down there and I'll bet they were Murphy's."

Fitz had been fair bursting to break in for some time and couldn't hold in any longer.

"Say, old timer, you said something awhile back about the mare mules having foals. Now any damn fool knows that mules won't breed. How about it, eh?"

"Is that so?" replied Dan, with a wink for the rest of us. "I wouldn't be so sure about that. Anyway, let me tell **you** something that **every** damn fool doesn't know, and that is—you can't trust a mule; they're liable to do anything!"

Missouri Trout

SPORTSMEN who have fished in the Missouri river in Montana for years are unanimous in their comment that the Big Muddy is producing bigger and better game fish each year, as the result of constant planting by the State Fish and Game Department. In the picture above, C. J. Anderson of Alhambra is shown with two beauties caught in the Missouri near Hauser dam. The Loch Leven weighs three pounds and the rainbow trout 4½ pounds. Mr. Anderson declares that he has fished the Missouri river for 16 years and never before has found the sport so exhilirating. He came to Montana from Minnesota where the pike and musky abound.

MICE DESTROY CROPS

Thousands of mice wandering in packs over the northwestern corner of Germany have eaten up the year's crops before they were half ripe and destroyed the meadow land so that the cattle had to be sent away. The low-lying land known as the Moorriem has been a home for these mice packs for many years and from there they have gone out at various intervals to destroy the surrounding country. This winter they have come into the houses and the barns. Hundreds of cats have been imported into every village but the cats themselves are dying of the disease which the mice bring with them. Fortunately this pest does not affect human beings. Many farmers in the district have given up any idea of sowing again this year as they can see no hope of a crop as long as the fight against the mice is as fruitless as it has been to date.

IS YOUR DOG A HERO?

A Medal of Honor will be awarded by the Latham Foundation, of Oakland, Calif., to some dumb animal in each state which has performed an act of especial valor or bravery. This department would feel especially gratified to know that such a distinction had fallen to some faithful dog of a Montana hunter. If your own dog or the dog of a friend or neighbor has been the means of rescuing a child from drowning, has performed an especially faithful service to a wounded hunter, has saved a sleeping family from danger of fire, or has performed some other service of distinct heroism, take the time to write the facts to the editor of MONTANA WILD LIFE.

"What shall I wear for my screen test?"

"How about a filmy dress?"

Trout Are Stranded In Low Water And Department Asks Cooperation

AFTER an unusually mild winter, during which time but little precipitation was noted in the mountains, streams in many districts of Montana are lower this spring than for many years past. This condition has a direct bearing upon the work being carried on by the Fish and Game Department in stocking the waters with game fish, according to Kenneth F. MacDonald, state superintendent of fisheries. In many cases it has been necessary to seine stranded fish and transplant them in areas amply provided with water.

"To enable the Department to do all possible to save fish caught in the low water areas, it is requested that such conditions be reported to the nearest fish hatchery or to the Fish and Game Department at Helena," said Superintendent MacDonald. "Crews will be dispatched to the reported section and efforts made to rescue the stranded fish. At this particular time of the year, with waters at a comparatively low temperature and of high oxygen content, it requires but a small flow to sustain fish life. We appeal to all farmers and users of these waters to give some thought to fish life and where possible, leave enough water to sustain their lives over what we hope will be a short period."

Sportsmen of Nation Eye Montana License

SPORTSMEN of the nation, keenly interested in propagation and protection of wild life, have turned their eyes toward Montana. They are watching results of the sale of the $5 Montana Sportsman's License, the only document of its kind fostered for the sake of conservation in the nation. If early indications may be taken as a criterion, the first year of existence of the new license will see unexpected sales. Reports are reaching State Fish and Game headquarters at Helena daily, of a growing demand for the document of honor which stamps a sportsman as one who has more than a passing interest in fish and game.

Accompanying this article is a photograph of License No. 1, which was issued to Senator Ralph R. Tower of Lake county. Senator Tower was instrumental in amending the original measure. The amendment providing for the Sportsman's License at $5 then passed both houses and was signed by Governor Erickson. A windshield sticker accompanies each license and they are in growing demand throughout the state.

The license, printed in four colors on heavy linen, is arranged to fold in four sections to fit the card case. The top section is the designation, the second section is devoted to the description of the holder and carries the signature of the purchaser, the third section is the return post-card which the law provides must be returned to the department, showing where elk or deer were killed, sex, condition, whether on forest reserve, county, and other facts, and the fourth section carries the elk and deer tags, which must be attached immediately after killing.

Montana is the first state to attempt such a precedent and requests are constantly being received from other state departments for sample licenses and windshield stickers.

The American Game Association, of which Seth Gordon is president, with headquarters at Washington, D. C., in its monthly bulletin comments as follows:

"How to obtain sufficient funds to finance comprehensive state fish and game programs has given dozens of officials and leaders of organized sportsmen much concern. All kinds of schemes have been tried to give the man who can afford to pay more toward the program a chance without shutting out the man of small means.

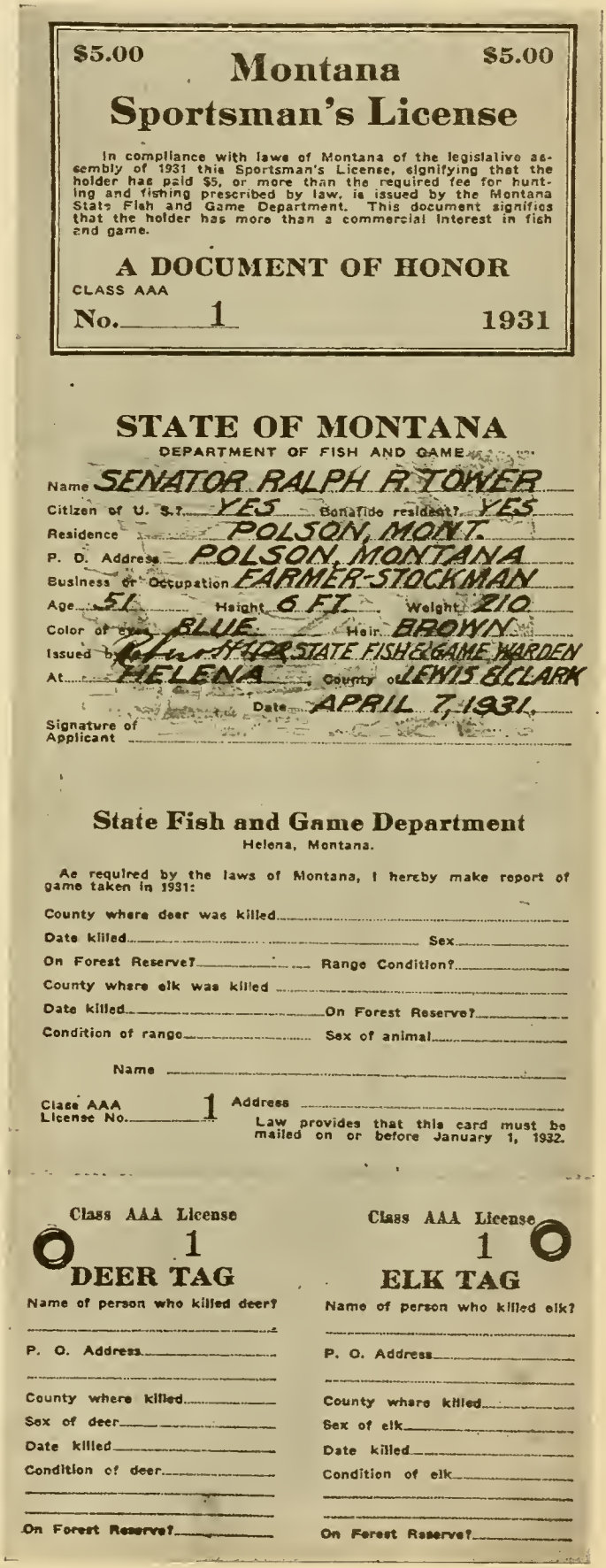
"Invitations to purchase several licenses have been tried without success. Offering a number of separate licenses, with a cut rate for a combination, has done better, but usually the fewer the classes of licenses the easier the law is to administer.

"Montana seems to have struck upon a novel plan that promises results. We shall watch it with much interest. The new idea is a Sportsman's License which includes a special certificate and a windshield sticker to identify the holder as a sportsman who has contributed additional funds to the cause.

"Under the Montana plan, the much touted one-gallus man may secure a license to fish and to hunt game birds for $2.00, as in the past; those desiring to hunt big game pay an additional dollar for a resident big game license; and the Sportsman's License will sell for $5.00, which gives those willing to contribute that amount all the privileges of the other two licenses and allows them to make a voluntary contribution of $2.00 additional. This plan was deemed preferable to a flat increase in the former license fee.

"If this idea works in Montana, as we believe it will, then it will work in every other state. It will mean a "badge of honor" to be the possessor of a $5.00 license and a windshield sticker.

"In addition to the new license plan, Montana is now going to keep check on the number of large game animals killed by requiring licensees to return a special post-card attached to the license. Every state should require a report of all game and fish taken. No business can prosper without inventories."



$5.00 **Montana Sportsman's License** $5.00

In compliance with laws of Montana of the legislative assembly of 1931 this Sportsman's License, signifying that the holder has paid $5, or more than the required fee for hunting and fishing prescribed by law, is issued by the Montana State Fish and Game Department. This document signifies that the holder has more than a commercial interest in fish and game.

A DOCUMENT OF HONOR

CLASS AAA

No. 1 1931

STATE OF MONTANA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Name SENATOR RALPH R. TOWER

Citizen of U. S.? YES Bona fide resident? YES

Residence POLSON, MONT.

P. O. Address POLSON, MONTANA

Business or Occupation FARMER-STOCKMAN

Age 51 Height 6 FT. Weight 210

Color of eyes BLUE Hair BROWN

Issued by STATE FISH & GAME WARDEN

At HELENA, County of LEWIS & CLARK

Date APRIL 7, 1931.

Signature of Applicant

State Fish and Game Department

Helena, Montana.

As required by the laws of Montana, I hereby make report of game taken in 1931:

County where deer was killed

Date killed Sex

On Forest Reserve? Range Condition?

County where elk was killed

Date killed On Forest Reserve?

Condition of range Sex of animal

Name

Class AAA License No. 1 Address

Law provides that this card must be mailed on or before January 1, 1932.

Class AAA License 1

DEER TAG

Name of person who killed deer?

P. O. Address

County where killed

Sex of deer

Date killed

Condition of deer

On Forest Reserve?

Class AAA License 1

ELK TAG

Name of person who killed elk?

P. O. Address

County where killed

Sex of elk

Date killed

Condition of elk

On Forest Reserve?

Trumpeter Swans of Red Rock Lake

By Paul J. Fair, Photographer Employed by Montana Fish and Game Department

BRIGHT and early on the morning of June 18, Blaz Lugar, the stalwart young caretaker at the Idyllwild Gun Club at Red Rock lake, and the writer set out in search of a nest of Trumpeter Swans, a bird almost extinct except in Montana. For a half hour or so our outboard motor putt-putted along contentedly, and then shoaling water began to spell trouble. Out came oars and paddle, and for two hours we pulled and dug and slid that boat over mud, covered with scarcely enough water to even lubricate it.

The prospects looked bad. Even with the motor functioning it would take us four hours to make Swan lake, where Blaz thought the swans might be nesting. He said that between where we were and our destination conditions were no better and probably worse. At this rate we wouldn't be able to get there by nightfall. So we decided to pull ashore at the Montana Gun Club and he would go back for his auto and boat trailer, come back and pick up our outfit and we would make a new start next morning from a more favorable place.

As we stepped out of the boat at the Montana Club we noticed a couple of swans down the channel a quarter of a mile or so below us, and pausing to watch them for a moment, saw that they had started swimming our way. Getting down behind some scrubby sage brush that offered partial concealment, I set up the movie camera with the high power 14-inch telephoto lens in place.

The swans came steadily on, swimming, now side by side and now one or the other leading. They passed us at about 175 yards and the buzzing camera recorded their progress.

"Blaz," I said, "I think those birds are a pair, and by this time they must surely have a nest."

Blaz was dubious. He thought they were just a couple of birds fooling around together and anyhow he didn't think there was any place down at this end of the lake where they would be likely to nest.

"Well," I told him, "let's take the glasses and go up on the roof of the club house and watch them. We aren't going to be able to get to Swan lake today anyhow and if we are lucky enough to spot a nest from here we will be a day ahead of the game."

For three solid hours we laid on the roof watching the swans. It certainly looked as if Blaz was right. They would swim along for a while as if they had some definite objective and then suddenly turn off to feed. Then they would go to sleep, tucking their heads under their wings and resting thus for 15 or 20 minutes at a time. All this was repeated time after time, and meanwhile they were going farther and farther away, until finally they were just white specks that danced and grew blurry in the heat waves, over a mile from where we laid watching.

Montana Pictures of Historic Value

WHEN Paul J. Fair, photographer in the employ of the Montana State Fish and Game Commission, secured the moving picture reel of the Trumpeter Swans on Red Rock lake, he secured moving pictures of America's largest game birds which are practically extinct. The photographs on the opposite page are taken from the moving picture and are highly cherished by scientists and ornithologists. Experts on the swan declare there is but little difference between the Trumpeter and the Whistler Swan, except the position of the nostrils, size and the call. These differences are explained in a scientific article to be published in MONTANA WILD LIFE next month, amplifying Fair's description of the manner in which these remarkable pictures were taken.

Finally the two birds separated. One of them swam to a jutting point and climbed out on a hummock, while the other swam rapidly back into a little bay and behind a fringe of tules—and stayed there!

Five—ten minutes passed and the bird did not reappear. Through the glasses we could glimpse a speck of white among the tules—always in the same place.

"Blaz, I'll bet anything we'll find the nest there." We climbed down and started for the boat.

Another hour of heart-breaking work and we reached the absolute limit of navigation, and taking the camera and tripod we started afoot. Floundering from hummock to hummock, over channels and through mud, we somehow made it, although meanwhile the swans had disappeared, how or when we failed to notice.

About 20 feet out from the hummocky shore line, in the center of the tule clump was an old muskrat house. I set up the camera and shot some film as Blaz floundered out to the rat house. A broad grin spread over his face and he held up his hand, five fingers spread. Five eggs!

Then I waded out. There, in a hollow in the top of the rat house lay five huge, olive buff eggs. Oh boy, wasn't that the well known grand and glorious feeling! We got a close-up of the eggs and waded back to shore. Very promptly we had a feeling that all was not right, and the next five minutes were spent in pulling dozens of nasty, rubbery leeches off our bare legs.

Getting back home in the boat was a fight all over again, although not so bad as it had been, for the wind had come up and driven more water into the shallow end of the lake. But we had found the nest, we were happy, and that made a lot of difference.

Next morning we were out at daylight, cut a couple of aspen poles and willow branches, and loading them in Blaz's machine, together with a lot of old burlap sacks, set out to build a blind. We drove clear around the end of the lake, aiming to carry the stuff from the nearest dry ground. It was hard work staggering along with the loads, coming upon hidden channels which had to be jumped or crossed somehow. Blaz got a lot of unholy glee in watching the not always successful efforts of my short legs. However, we got there and built our blind, thrusting aspen poles in the boggy ground, lacing willows across them, and covering the face with burlap sacking. It was placed about 125 yards from the nest.

As soon as the blind was completed we left, not wishing to disturb the birds or keep them away from the nest any longer than was absolutely necessary.

Next morning we were back, and at just 8 o'clock Blaz left me in the blind with my camera equipment. I quickly got the camera set up, with the 14-inch telephoto trained on the nest through a peephole in the burlap front of the blind. The question was, would the birds come to the nest, or had they been too badly frightened by the strange structure and the humans who had acted so suspiciously.

The swans were out in the open water about half a mlie away, and for a long time swam to and fro, with heads and necks up, very evidently on the lookout. After a while they started swimming in, only to swing out and away when still several hundred yards out. This was repeated many times, although each time they came a little nearer. The sun was very hot and I began to fear for the safety of the eggs. With such rare birds it would be unforgivable to sacrifice a settings. Swarms of mosquitoes didn't add anything to my peace as I lay on the ground under the tripod, squinting through a thin spot in the burlap. There was nothing to do but watchful waiting.

Finally, just at noon, the great birds headed for the nest and kept on coming. It looked as if they had conquered their fears at last. Sure enough, the male swung aside just beyond the fringe of tules, and the female threaded her way through them and climbed up on the rat house.

I had very, very cautiously raised up to where I could operate the camera and at this stage started the film traveling through it. Although both birds were very much on the alert, they did not make any movement that would indicate added alarm. Perhaps they could not hear the whirring camera mechanism. Thank heaven for that big lens that made it possible to get pictures at that distance!

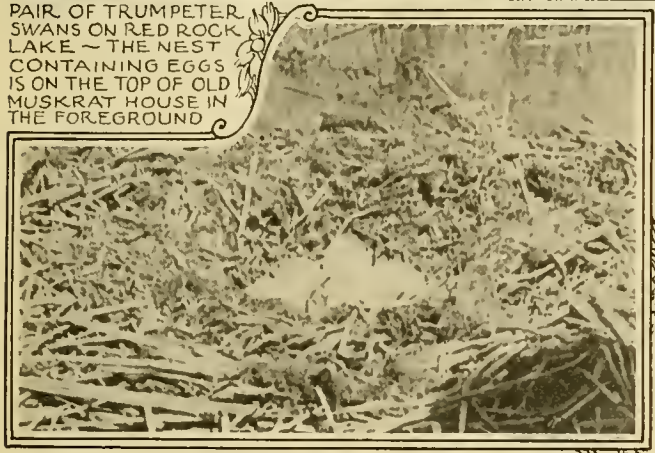
(Please turn to Page 18)

MONTANA'S TRUMPETER SWANS

SCIENTISTS DECLARE THIS WATERFOWL IS PRACTICALLY EXTINCT EXCEPT IN MONTANA AND SCATTERED AREAS NEAR ROCKY MOUNTAINS

BLAZ FLOUNDERED TO THE RAT HOUSE

PAIR OF TRUMPETER SWANS ON RED ROCK LAKE — THE NEST CONTAINING EGGS IS ON THE TOP OF OLD MUSKRAT HOUSE IN THE FOREGROUND



THE MALE CAME SWIMMING OVER TO SEE IF THINGS WERE GOING ALL RIGHT.

IN A HOLLOW IN THE TOP OF THE RAT HOUSE LAY FIVE HUGE OLIVE BUFF EGGS ~~~~~

FOR FOUR HOURS IT WAS MY PRIVELEGE TO WATCH THIS WONDERFUL BIRD, THE RAREST AND MOST SPLENDID OF ALL WATERFOWL

THE MALE SWUNG ASIDE JUST BEYOND THE FRINGE OF TULES, AND THE FEMALE CLIMBED UP ON THE RAT HOUSE NEST

THE FEMALE STARTED COVERING THE EGGS PREPARING TO LEAVE THE NEST.

John Berkin--62 Years A Fisherman

MONTANA sportsmen who are now engaged in an intensive drive to bring back the fish and game of early days of the Treasure State, are often prone to think of outdoor sport in terms of a generation—a mere space of a few years. Lads are appealing to dads for yarns of fish and game conditions as they existed when dad was a lad, and the conscientious campaign of conservation goes on apace. To the youngsters who enjoy hooking Montana trout, 62 years is quite a spell. Yet for that length of time John Berkin of Butte, one of the best known sportsmen in the state, has been an active angler. At the last annual meeting of the Butte Anglers' Club, Mr. Berkin was re-elected vice president.

The Montana Standard of Butte pays the following tribute to Mr. Berkin in a recent edition:

To John Berkin, old-time Butte resident and a prominent sportsman here for more than half a century, who was again re-elected vice president of the Butte Anglers' Club at its annual meeting, goes the distinction of having done more for the preservation of fishing and hunting in Montana than any other single man.

This is the consensus of the opinion of members of the Butte Anglers' Club as expressed by one of its most prominent members, who commented on Berkin's long and untiring devotion to the sportscen's cause in Montana.

Long after John Berkin's activities have ceased the influence of his work will be felt and appreciated by thousands of sportsmen in Montana

It was 27 years ago this spring that the idea of organizing a club of Butte fishermen was conceived. A number of sportsmen gathered in Carl Engel's sports goods store. The gradual increase of the number of fishermen in this section was discussed and it was felt that unless something was done to restock the streams the sport would soon die out. At that time some of the fishermen hiked to the streams, others took trains to their favorite haunts, and stil others hired horses and rigs for the day's outing. But they went and they usually brought back their limit of trout every trip.

In the group at the Engel store were Gus Rapp, Philo Hanson, John Joblon, Judge Lippincott, Mr. Engel and others. Rapp's suggestion is said to have been: "Let's get together and do something!" They did and in the years which have followed the Butte Anglers' Club has planted millions of trout and grayling fingerlings in the streams. Last year more than 2,000,000 were planted.

It was 62 years ago, in 1869, that John Berkin began his fishing in the Boulder river. For 30 years he remained

John Berkin

an inveterate angler and then he realized that if fishing was to continue uninterrupted and no measures taken for restocking of streams, there would be no fishing left before long.

As a member of the seventh legislative assembly he succeeded in securing the passage of his own bill which provided for the establishment of a state game and fish department, the nucleus of the present fine department. Thus John Berkin in reality is the father of the fish and game department in the state.

The bill authorized the appointment of a game warden and deputies and the then Gov. Joseph K. Toole was induced to sign it by Mr. Berkin when the Butte man proved that the department would be entirely self-supporting. At the ninth legislative session Berkin successfully fought against the passage of a bill seking to abolish the game wardens and transfer their duties to sheriffs and constables.

Two sessions later Berkin again made his presence felt, introducing and securing the passage of a bill authorizing the purchase of the private fish hatchery of E. P. Mathewson of Anaconda, the first of the series of fish hatcheries subsequently built or acquired by the state to make its present fine system of plants. Mr. Berkin also secured appropriations of $10,000 for its maintenance for two years.

In 1921 the bill was passed creating the commission in its present form.

It was he, too, who originated the idea of rearing ponds for the small fish fry when anglers found that millions of the planted fish were lost or eaten by the bigger fellows because they were not able to care for themselves. In 1923, as an officer of the Butte Anglers' Club, he completed the first small rearing pond at Maiden Rock, the first consignment of fry were placed there and in 1924, when they had attained a length of from four to five inches, they were released into the Big Hole river, the first successful experiment of artificial rearing undertaken by the club.

As a result of the success of this first small rearing pond, the club completed last year the largest trout rearing pond in the world at Maiden Rock and each year plans to liberate millions of trout in Montana streams.

In appreciation of his unselfish and untiring efforts Mr. Berkin was presented with a solid gold game warden's badge by the game and fish department of the state in 1911. Mr. Berkin is an honorary life deputy game warden of the state.

Trumpeter Swans of Red Rock Lakes

(Continued from Page 16)

For four hours it was my privilege to watch this wonderful bird, the rarest, largest and most splendid of all our waterfowl, with the added pleasure in knowing that I was recording an intimate phase of its life that could be shared with many, many other people who would never have the opportunity I was enjoying.

The female would preen her feathers, turn the eggs, settle down on them, and then start pulling the nesting material about and rearranging it. Every few minutes she would get up, change her position and go through the whole procedure again. Occasionally she would go to sleep, twisting her long neck back in an S-shape and tucking her head under her wing. About half past three the male came swimming over to see if things were going all right. He stopped just beyond the tules and they both snoozed for a while. Then he swam away again.

At four o'clock the female got up and started covering the eggs, and I knew that she was preparing to leave the nest. Around and around she turned, raking the nest material over the eggs with her bill, doing this for four or five minutes, then waddled down off the rat house and swam off to join the male.

I had taken 400 feet of film, and as she swam away I heard the end of the last bit of it clicking as it entered the takeup spool. Heaving a sigh that combined very real satisfaction and relief from nervous tension, I sat down to smoke and fight mosquitoes and wait for Blaz to come and get me. It had been SOME day!

Prizes of $500 In Common Enemy Contest

THE Montana State Fish and Game Commission has again set aside $500 in cash prizes for sportsmen's clubs of Montana for the destruction of common enemies of wild life. Contest continues throughout 1931, closing December 31st. Each competing club is required to appoint a committee of at least three to count and check and make s worn affidavit to the number of animals, birds and eggs destroyed and total number of points scored by its club, or under the auspices of its club during the period of this contest, in accordance with the Schedule of Points herewith; it being further reqnired that such affidavit and score must be in the office of the State Game Warden, Helent, Montana, not later than 7:00 p. m., January 15, 1931. Clubs entering the contest will notify the State Game Warden that they are competing and provide the names of men selected to handle the club contest. Points already collected in 1931 will be allowed. Clubs may change the schedule of points to meet local conditions, may conduct their campaigns as they see fit, and may have as many as they see fit during the period of this contest, but the prizes offered by the Commission will be awarded only upon the scores made under the Schedule of Points herewith. Persons engaged in trapping as a business will not be permitted to compete and points will not be allowed any competing club on birds or animals killed or trapped by professional hunters or trappers.

The same committee that certifies to the score of the club is required to certify to the score of the individual in their community destroying the greatest number of predatory animals and birds, giving detailed report of the number and kind of each, including eggs of predatory birds.

Prizes—Common Enemy Campaign, 1931

$150, $100, $75, $50, for four highest scores by clubs.

$40—For highest score on predatory animals.

$40—For highest score on predatory birds.

$20—For highest score on eggs of predatory birds.

$25—To the individual making the highest score.

Schedule of Points

Mountain Lion	150 points
Wolf	100 points
Coyote	50 points
Lynx	40 points
Bobcat	30 points
Weasel	10 points
Cooper's Hawk	10 points
Sharp-shinned Hawk	10 points
Pigeon Hawk	10 points
Duck Hawk	10 points
Goshawk	10 points
Great Horned Owl	10 points
Magpie	8 points
Crow	5 points
Kingfisher	5 points
Groundhog, Woodchuck (Marmot)	5 points
Gopher	2 points

Each egg of any predatory bird named in accompany schedule will count one-half as much as the bird of same species. Clubs are requested to report progress and incidents of the campaign, and monthly letters from contestants will be published in MONTANA WILD LIFE.

Dawson Club Busy

Sportsmen of the Dawson County Rod and Gun Club, who are listed among the most sincere in the state, have enrolled in a meritorious drive against predatory birds and animals, which will close July 1. Members of the club and rural residents of the county are eligible to compete for $500 in prizes. J. W. Thompson, O. W. Johnstone and Harry Rust have been placed in charge and points are to be reported to D. A. Patton and the Predatory Animal Committee. The annual contest results in ridding the county of birds and animals which prey upon the wild life.

Prizes will be awarded on points obtained as follows:

Coyotes	500
New members	100
Crows	100
Crow eggs	25
Hawks	100
Hawk eggs	25
Magpies	100
Magpie eggs	25
Rattlesnakes	100
Eagles	200
Eagle eggs	100
Owls	150
Owl eggs	75
Skunks	200
Weasels	400

Business men of Glendive who contributed to make this contest a success are: Red Trail Garage, Pete Stecher, Larimer's, Gamble Robinson Co., Purity Confectionery, Liberty Shoe Shop, F. J. O'Malley, Joe Giarratana, Patterson & Sawyer, Glendive Steam Laundry, Haskell Auto Co., Brenner Drug Co., Berens & Healy, Cummins Inc., Holm & Grady, C. B. Imholff, Cliff Dunn, Glendive Furniture Co., Glendive Oil Co., Jas Shepard, Jordan Hotel, S. J. Daniel, Carey Sweet Shop, Dawson County Review, Midland Lumber Co., Sidney Cohen, Monarch Lumber Co., Farnum & Gabert, John Horst, Dion-Eustrom Co., E. B. Stenmark, Westrum Bros., Bert Johnson, Exchange State Bank, First Natinonal Bank, Frank Oliver, F. T. Reynolds Co., Rogers Variety Store, J. C. Penney Co., Kreis Motor Co., John Scharff, Bismarck Grocery Co., Reid Motor Co., Montana-Dakota Power Co., H. B. Warren, M. Keinrath, Woolworth's, Tisdale and Andrews, Standard Merc. Co., Chicago Cafe, Steve Meissner, Lou Plagmann, Kennelly & Kennelly, John Bowler, Glendive State Bank, Joe Stipek, Sam Bloom, M. L. Lee, Glendive Second Hand Store, Long Wa Laundry, Glendive Transfer Co., G. D. Hollecker, Grill Cafe, Mat Sohm, Sanitary Meat Market, Joe Crisafulli, Glendive Ice aud Beverage Co., Dr. Brown, and Ray Davidson.

The Dawson County Rod & Gun club is one of the most active in the state. Results have been achieved through cooperation with the State Fish and Game Commission and its membership is ever on the alert to aid in the conservation of wild life. Meetings are held monthly.

Through state and club co-operation the dam was constructed at Fox lake which will eventually mean splendid waterfowl shooting and the saving of thousands of ducklings left in receding waters to die when the water has formerly dried up. Last fall the club planted 6,000 duck food plants and more duck food is on the way.

At the last meeting it was unanimously agreed to present Dawson county legislators with complimentary club tickets. They are Senator A. A. Baker, Representatives Harry A. Sample and H. R. Green. Judge Edward Anderson was also made an honorary member.

Members are making plans for a big banquet at the Jordan Cafe at Glendive and the spring promises a busy season for sportsmen of Dawson county.

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MONTANA WILD LIFE

Montana Sportsmen's Association

THE Montana Sportsmen's Association has issued an appeal to all clubs in the state to organize and function properly. Many sportsmen still believe that some splendid act of providence will take care of their problems in the matter of conservation of wild life. They do not fully realize the importance of assisting clubs, the State Fish and Game Department and the Montana Sportsmen's Association in every way possible.

In many clubs the executive committee does not have full power to act without the vote of the club at a regular meeting. Matters of importance come up every month. Clubs often meet but once a year. Progress can not be made without giving the executive committee the power to act.

One of the first steps is for the executive committee to outline a program for the year's activities. Committees should be appointed by the president and executive committee. The members of the executive committee should act as chairmen of committees. An open meeting should then be called to approve this program.

Some clubs have tried in vain to go out year after year and sell memberships without any definite program.

If the sportsmen of Montana are to accomplish the great amount of work necessary for the perpetuation of wild life it will require the unselfish and conscientious effort and co-operation of every sportsman with his local club, the State Fish and Game Department and the Montana Sportsmen's Association.

Every club is a business in itself and every member an employe and stockholder. It is therefore up to directors and executive committee to see that the business pays dividends in results. New blood among the officers is often a good thing as a few men can not be expected to carry on the work year after year.

A tentative program has been sent to all affiliated clubs in an effort to assist in selecting committees and outlining work. The directors and executive committees should meet six to twelve times each year, if only during the lunch hour. The clubs should meet from two to four times each year, preferably four as we have four distinct seasons that affect wild life, and conditions. An outdoor meeting at least once each year will keep up the enthusiasm and entertainment.

There are more than 80,000 sportsmen in Montana. Practically every citizen is interested in fish and game.

Sportsmen in towns that do not have a club may reach the secretary, B. F. Gerry, Box 477, Missoula, Mont., and the state association will lend assistance in getting new clubs organized.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVES

April has been "MEMBERSHIP MONTH" for sportsmen's clubs throughout the state. Many clubs have been successful so far and report that their membership will be greatly increased this year. The outcome of these drives will be shown in the June issue.

The membership drive will continue through May. This is an opportunity for every club to fall in line and increase its membership. Several clubs have added a juvenile membership and the boys are selling more memberships than their elders.

WHITE SULPHUR TO HAVE CLUB

SPORTSMEN of White Sulphur Springs are actively engaged in organizing a club. Dr. J. M. Wolfe has given much time and many others are behind the movement. B. F. Gerry, secretary, intends to spend a day there in the interest of the new club. Motion pictures of Montana wild life will be shown to the school pupils during the afternoon and to the general public in the evening. The new club will hold its first meeting and sign the charter immediately after the evening program.

JUVENILE MEMBERSHIPS

SPORTSMEN'S clubs of Montana can accomplish results by having a juvenile membership. A small membership fee of not more than 25 cents can be charged. Such members are the future generation of sportsmen and many of them fish and hunt. It is safe to say that they would be enthusiastic in helping the clubs in many activities and membership drives. They would at the same time be helping to bring about better conditions and more fish and game for the time when they will be the sportsmen carrying on the bulk of the work of the clubs. They will also at that time have gained a better knowledge of conditions in general and be well equipped to carry on the work. The educational committees can work with these boys and they will in turn carry the good work into the schools and elsewhere.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BILLINGS

THE Montana Sportsmen's Association wishes to take this opportunity to extend its congratulations to the Billings Rod and Gun Club upon the erection of one of the finest club houses in the country for the use of trapshooting, fish and game enthusiasts. The Billings club has accomplished many results before erecting this club house but this accomplishment is the finest and greatest. The officers of the Billings club are to be commended for the manner in which they have handled the affairs of the club and the untiring effort that they have always given to the work necessary for the welfare of the club.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

THE Montana Sportsmen's Association has prepared an attractive membership card to hang on the wall. It is 5½ by 7 inches in three colors with a deer in a light shade of brown as a background. These cards will be sent to members holding individual, club, or assisting memberships. New memberships were added this year in order that those outside of sportsmen's clubs including individuals, business firms, hotels, dude ranchers, civic and commercial clubs, would have the opportunity of assisting the state association.

The new memberships are as follows:

Assisting Membership (indivdual)	$ 5.00
Associate Membership (individual or firm)	10.00
Sustaining Membership (individual or firm)	25.00
Contributing Membership, individual or firm)	50.00
Promoting Membership, individual or firm)	100.00

1931 MEMBERS

ALTHOUGH about 40 clubs have signified their intentions of affiliating with the Montana Sportsmen's Association for 1931, only those shown below have paid their dues to April 1st. It is hoped that all other clubs having the money available will send in their dues at an early date. An active program was outlined for the year but unless dues are forthcoming it will be necesasry to curtail activities of the association.

Members now include: Anaconda Anglers' Club, A. C. Baumgartner of Great Falls, individual; S. G. Tonkin, Billings, individual life membership; Cut Bank Rod and Gun Club, Red Lodge Rod and Gun Club, Western Montana Fish and Game Association, Missoula; Bozeman Rod and Gun Club.

MISSOULA CLUB ACTIVE

At a recent meeting of the Western Montana Fish and Game Association officers were elcted and activities for the year outlined. The Missoula club is taking on a lot of activities this year that will benefit wild life and the sportsmen of the vicinity. Their annual banquet will he held in the near future. It is the affair of the season. The sportsmen of Missoula have always followed the rule that anything worth doing is worth doing well. Since its inception the Missoula club has been one of the most active clubs in the state.

WILD LIFE IS VALUABLE

Wild animal life of Canada has a capital valuation of $1,000,000,000 and means a yearly business turnover to the Dominion of about $45,000,000. This valuation includes the fur harvest, game fish and the manufacture of firearms and fishing tackle.